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July 31, 2011 • No 116

Hush-hush details of regeneration company set to go public

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

SECRET documents revealing intimate details about the inner workings of the Tunbridge Wells Regeneration Company look set to finally be made public.

The contentious development delivery vehicle has long proved controversial, with its directors accused of hiding behind a cloak of 'commercial sensitivity'.

Launched in 2008, it is a 50/50 joint venture between Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and public sector developers John Laing, designed to deliver regeneration projects across the borough.

At a cabinet meeting today, Thursday, council leader Bob Atwood is set to announce a date for publication of an edited version of the shareholders' agreement.

But for many this is not enough.

Cllr Ben Chapelard, a Liberal Democrat member for St James' ward, believes

that full disclosure is needed before the debate about how the town should develop in the future can move on.

The councillor says that part of the agreement involves the council paying a £50,000 indemnity if plans to redevelop the civic complex do not move into 'phase two', which would involve more detailed work on the viability of developing the site. There are 38 sites in the regeneration company's portfolio.

Cllr Chapelard said: "If it is £50,000 for 38 sites, you are talking about nearly £2 million. Is that what happens if we don't do anything with the regeneration company?"

"I'm after the full facts so we can make open and transparent decisions then we can look at how you create a sustainable town for the next 100 years.

"How much will it cost to disband the regeneration company? Is there a

Continued on page two



Picture: DAVID BARTHOLOMEW

ART

From Mr Men to art show

THE son of Roger Hargreaves, the creator of the Mr Men, is set to dazzle with an art exhibition at the Fairfax Gallery in the Pantiles in September. In an in-depth interview, Adam Hargreaves, 47, discusses how it felt growing up with, and inspiring, the children's favourites.

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TRANSPORT

Fury at North Farm traffic

FUMING motorists are demanding action be taken in time for the festive rush in and around the North Farm Industrial Estate after a recent meeting failed to come up with a solution. One proposal is a one-way system which, supporters claim, could provide a quick temporary fix.

PAGE 3

CRIME

Jail for cash van robbers

TWO crooks who held up a cash van due to deliver money to the Post Office in Summer-vale Road last July, and threatened the driver, have been jailed for nine years. A third man - from the same family as the two convicted - was found guilty in his absence after he jumped bail.

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OLD-FASHIONED KNEES-UP

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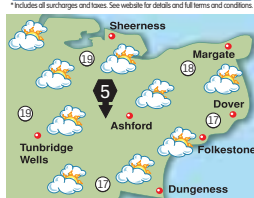
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Thursday	Max 22C	Min 14C
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Information supplied by **MeteoGroup**

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REGENERATION

Lone voice calls for town chiefs to 'take finger off the pause button' in debate

By Jenna Pudelek

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COUNCILLORS have voted to take into account the findings of the controversial consultation on the future of the civic complex when making decisions about the Grade II-listed buildings.

The full council debate covered a spectrum of opinions, from those who wanted the "discredited piece of work" and plans to develop the site scrapped, to the lone call for decisive action and moving forward.

Commissioned by Tunbridge Wells Regeneration Company, a joint venture between the borough council and developers John Laing, the consultation, carried out by M&N Communications, was published in May.

Many residents and councillors felt frustrated that the report failed to reach a conclusion and did not directly ask whether the civic complex, which includes the Town Hall, library, gallery and museum, should be developed.

At the meeting, Cllr Sean Holden, who represents Benenden and Cranbrook, said: "It provides Laing with no evidence that the population of Tunbridge Wells wants to knock everything down and build a shop. So let us put aside M&N's discredited piece of work, it's a hangover from the regime of the former leader whose wish to hand this place over to destruction embroiled this council in continuing costs and political controversy."

He went on to say the consultation had been pushed through without "democratic oversight" of the questions, which he said was a fix to allow them to be interpreted any way the council and developer wanted.

Cllr Linda Hall labelled the report a "recipe for stasis". She said its message was that the council should "do

Picture: PAUL JERRETT



WHAT NEXT?: Future of Town Hall is no clearer after consultation meeting

nothing or very little", saying it was full of "irreconcilable contradictions".

However, Cllr Tracy Moore, former economic development portfolio holder, argued the report was not a "no to change" and made a case for improving facilities. She tabled an amendment to the motion to allow the regeneration company to move the civic centre to the next stage of project approval. This would see proposals worked up so the public could make an informed choice.

She accused the cabinet of not wanting to cause offence or tensions: "Is this a talking shop or a chamber of action? Are we here to go in circles or move forward? Take your finger off the pause button and decide. So I call upon the cabinet to have the nerve to simply 'explore the opportunity further'."

After the meeting she explained her position, saying: "I sometimes feel like a lone voice in the council. My position is coming from a much more long-term perspective on how the town needs to change and grow, to prosper and have vitality."

In the end, the majority of mem-

bers (31) voted in favour of the motion, which will see the contents of the report, including the results of 7,000 questionnaires and hundreds of comments, and the views expressed, taken into account before any further decisions are made on the civic complex.

Leader of the opposition Liberal Democrats, David Neve, was among seven councillors to abstain. He said: "The M&N report came up with no recommendations so how could we vote yes or no to something that did not say anything? I think it was a ploy to waste a little time."

While Cllr Moore found no one to second her amendment, there was some support for her assertion that the town must improve its offer.

Summing up, leader Bob Atwood said: "I agree with those councillors, particularly Cllr Moore, who say we must get on with the job, it cannot remain static. To those who said let's do nothing, I would say what about the cinema site? We cannot leave that as is. There are things that need to be done in this town, not necessarily starting with the civic centre."

REGENERATION

'Frightening' council cannot get details

Continued from front page

timeline for developing the sites? Not having all the facts is overshadowing the whole picture."

The regeneration company came into being under the leadership of Roy Bullock, who was dramatically ousted from the council by his fellow Conservatives. For their part, the new administration, led by Mr Atwood, has promised a fresh and transparent approach to the venture.

In an interview with this newspaper two weeks ago, Cllr Atwood admitted he felt the regeneration company should not have been formed until agreement had been reached on future development plans.

But six months into his term, the opposition has begun to lose patience.

"My question [at last week's full council meeting] was 'when will you publish the shareholders' agreement?' They said it was commercially sensitive and I don't necessarily buy that," Cllr Chapelard said. "I think it is a convenient smoke-screen; why would it not be in the council's interest to publish the shareholders' agreement? They say it is commercially sensitive, therefore it must be to the advantage of John Laing."

"What is frightening is that as shareholders the council cannot influence what is going on and force the regeneration company to publish. It is a 50/50 partnership."

"It is frightening we don't have the power to make this happen. What was the deal negotiated when the regeneration company was founded?"

Today, Cllr Chapelard is due to ask the cabinet when the redacted version will be published and he is set to get an answer.

"It does not mean I'm happy with the edited version," he added. "Until we have the agreement published in full, with everything out in the open, we cannot look at what we want to do as a town, and, secondly, whether the regeneration company is the best deal for the residents."

Cllr Atwood told last Wednesday's full council meeting that he agreed with elements of Cllr Chapelard's argument and said the delivery vehicle was brought in too soon.

He said this week: "We are going to publish a redacted version of the shareholders' agreement. In the redacted sections there will be a summary of what information was there and an explanation about why it has been redacted."

"I hope to be able to announce the date for publication at the cabinet meeting on Thursday."

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FUNDRAISING

Stars' secret scribbles set to go under hammer for hospice

By Sian Elvin

westkent@kosmedia.co.uk

A HOST of top stars have created original pieces of art for a special exhibition and auction at the Brew House Hotel in October.

The 'secret scribbles' will form the backbone of Lyrical Journeys, with each piece of work based on their favourite song.

Among those who have contributed works include Queen guitarist Brian May, The Who lead singer Roger Daltrey, fashion designer Karen Millen, TV presenter Carol Vorderman, Private Eye editor Ian Hislop, and TV and radio legend Sir Terry Wogan.

The exhibition at the Tunbridge Wells hotel will raise money for Pembury's Hospice in the Weald. Dragons' Den star Guy Portelli, from Sevenoaks, famous for his pop icon work, will host the event which takes place on October 7.

After giving people the chance to view the works, there will be the opportunity to bid to buy a piece – signed by the artist. It will be a silent auction, which means the identity of the artist of each piece will only be revealed once the sale has been completed.

The art has been created using any drawing material the celebrity artist wanted to use



SECRET ART: Rachel Holweger with some of the many striking pieces created by celebrities

and is applied to a special mini canvas.

Rachel Holweger, fundraising director for the hospice, said: "We have been so excited by the response from well known artists and celebrities who have risen to the call to create a 'secret scribble'. There is some fantastic and highly original art flooding in for the event.

"The really exciting element is that anyone has the chance to bid for and own a wonderful little piece of art, which will be a true one-off, signed by the artist, whilst the identity of the artist will remain top secret until after the auction. Their identity will only be revealed when the bidding comes to a close, so you could end up with a picture from a TV star, top artist or pop legend."

The Hospice in the Weald provides specialist palliative care advice and clinical support for people with life limiting illness, their family and the bereaved. It requires £5million a year to fund its services – the bulk of which must come from fundraising. The event is sponsored by Evernden Interiors of Cranbrook and marketed by WAC PR & Marketing.

There is still time for stars or professional artists to add to the collection. For more details contact Phillippa James on 01892 820527 or email philippa.james@hospiceintheweald.org.uk.

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ Tackling bad behaviour

MOVES have been made to tackle anti-social behaviour in the St James' area of Tunbridge Wells after complaints from residents of loud music being played at inappropriate times, groups of young people drinking, littering and rows.

Town and Country Housing Group organised a mobile police station for the area last Thursday. Cllr Ben Chapelard said: "I think it was good to see all these agencies working together."

➔ Overnight challenge

OFF-ROAD cyclists and challenge-lovers have been urged to take part in the British Heart Foundation's Insomnia overnight event at Bedgebury Pinetum.

The eight-mile, 12-hour, forest trail starts at 8pm on September 17. The BHF, which is hosting the ride along with the Bedgebury Boars Cycling Club, said the challenge was to complete as many laps as possible in the time. For details call 0808 100 2109 or email eastevents@bhf.org.uk or visit bhf.org.uk/bedgeburynightchallenge.

➔ Outdoor activities

A MINI beast discovery afternoon takes place at Haysden Country Park on Sunday, with pond-dipping on Wednesday.

Both free events have been organised by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council and the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership.

They will run from 2pm but places must be booked in advance by calling 01622 683695.

■ **Haysden wins Green Flag. See page 9.**

TRAFFIC

'No imagination' shown as North Farm traffic chaos set to continue

KENT Highways has been accused of having "no hope or imagination" when it comes to solving the traffic congestion problems at North Farm.

It is thought that some 20,000 residents and visitors are affected by the regular jams at the busy Tunbridge Wells industrial estate.

The opening of the popular Marks & Spencer and John Lewis stores has exacerbated the problem, and with the long-awaited A21 dualling scheme on hold once again due to Government spending cuts, misery for motorists looks set to continue for years to come.

Tunbridge Wells borough councillors who represent the surrounding wards of Sherwood, High Brooms, Southborough and St John's, believe they have a short-term solution that could ease the gridlock in time for the pre-Christmas rush.

But there is growing frustration that Kent County Council, which is responsible for highways, is reluctant to take any immediate action.

A working group chaired by Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark and including members of the borough council, Kent Highways and business representatives, met earlier this



BUSY: Traffic particularly builds up in the run up to Christmas

month to discuss ways to ease congestion at the estate.

Bob Backhouse, a borough council member for Sherwood, said: "Many of us had high hopes of a frank and informative discussion. Foremost in our minds was the need to accommodate high levels of Christmas traffic. Consequently we were looking for a short-term 'tide-us-over' solution as well as a longer ranging solution."

"Cllr Colin Bothwell [High Brooms and Southborough] has had a scheme – a circular route within the area.

"It would stop the right hand turns which are a major cause of back-up traffic and would be simple to install on a temporary basis with temporary signage and covering lights.

"This was rejected by the 'expert' hired by KCC Highways as

too expensive. But his projected solutions will be very expensive and will not help this year's pre-Christmas congestion.

"We all left without anything new; just confirming that it is dire, which we know, and they have no hope or imagination at highways to solve the conundrum in the next few years."

A report on different options to tackle congestion at North Farm based on a study commissioned by the borough council and KCC is due to be published in early August.

MP Mr Clark added: "Some short-term actions have been identified, which I hope can be implemented soon."

A joint statement from KCC and the borough council said the idea of a one-way system would be looked at as part of a medium-term solution.

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News

CRIME

Cash-in-transit robbers locked up for nine years

By Jenna Pudelek

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TWO robbers have each been sentenced to nine years in jail for a raid on a cash-in-transit van in Tunbridge Wells.

Stephen Stone, 53, of Cranwell Road in Rusthall, and Grant Stone, 32, of Prusom Street in Wapping, were found guilty of robbery at Maidstone Crown Court.

Meanwhile, officers are hunting for another of the robbers, Ron Stone, 59, from Bow in London, who has skipped bail and was found guilty in his absence. All three are related.

During a two week trial, the jury heard how the two men, who were masked, threatened and assaulted the driver of a Post Office van, demanding he hand over the cash he was due to deliver to the Post Office in Summervale Road.

The incident took place in July. The driver, who was not able to access the internal security cage of the van, endured



GUILTY: Grant and Stephen Stone convicted of van raid

a barrage of verbal abuse and violence from the crooks, who took the cash he had been carrying, the court heard.

A witness started taking photographs of the robbers, who in their hurry to escape released the Post Office worker and drove off. The stolen car used in the robbery, which they attempted to set alight in a bid to hide evidence, was later found on Tunbridge Wells Common.

In sentencing, Judge Jeremy Gold QC, said: "You have both pleaded not guilty and on overwhelming evidence been found guilty. It was a planned robbery

with a degree of forethought."

Police said the net closed on the robbers within minutes of the crime being committed.

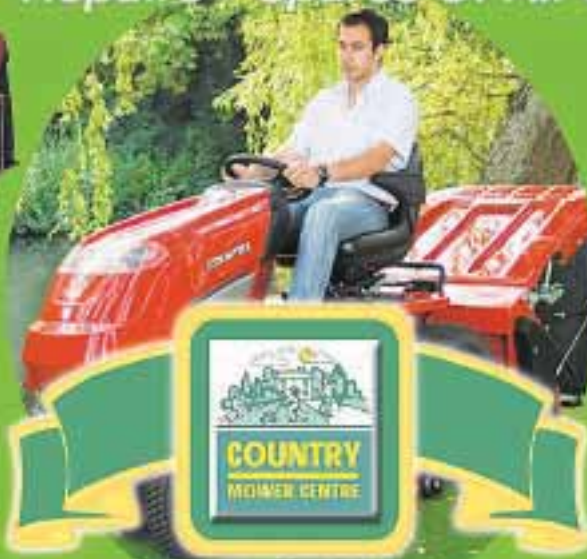
After finding the stolen getaway car, officers were called to a nearby location where one of the men was seen getting into another car. This was traced to an address in Rusthall. There, officers found one of the offenders, who had cash taken in the raid on him.

Police made two further arrests after another car, linked to one of the offenders, was stopped later that day and ballistics and gloves used in the crime were found, along with £200 in one pound coins.

Investigating officer, DC Mark Ansdell, of the west Kent tactical crime investigation department, said: "Three members of the same family were found guilty on overwhelming evidence of committing this robbery, which involved a high degree of violence against a delivery driver who was just trying to carry out his job."

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REGENERATION

What would you do with grot spot?

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

IT IS hard to walk past Tunbridge Wells' most infamous grot spot and not imagine what might finally replace the derelict cinema and boarded-up shops.

The possibilities for the town centre eyesore seem endless given the sheer amount of prime space available. Do you plump for retail, culture, sport or open space? Or perhaps a combination of them all?

But one resident has gone a step further and drawn-up detailed plans for the site as part of her degree course – recently presenting her efforts to the council's top brass.

Val Bolsover, of Sandown Park, said she started to become "fascinated" with local land use in January last year.

"It made me look at the big lump in the middle of town and I thought we really ought to be doing something with it," she said.

"I thought wouldn't it be great to knock it down and build allotments. But I had to admit this would not be financially successful."

Former teacher Mrs Bolsover, who is studying for a BA in fine art at K College, began researching further.

"I started thinking about the history of the town and how it had beautiful gardens. I thought it would be good to build on this."

"You see people with families and there is nowhere for kids to let off steam. If people can't afford to eat at a cafe for lunch they end up walking along eating a sandwich."

"The site needs something that nowhere else has, so I thought about building a garden vertically from the ground."

Creating a 'living wall' – an example of which can be seen at the O2 Arena in Greenwich – forms the centre piece of her scheme.

Mrs Bolsover has envisaged a terraced, open space leading away from Mount Pleasant, which



FOR THE FUTURE: Val Bolsover has come up with her own design to redevelop the old cinema site

would form a social meeting area with the living wall reaching up alongside it.

Her design is based on a crescent-shaped building, which she sees housing a museum, art gallery and library, as well as two cafes, one outside. There would be more open space on the other side of the building.

Rather controversially, she also thought the site could be a better place for the war memorial, saying it would be "more respectful" than by a bus stop and would still have space for parades.

"I feel very strongly that the premises we've got for the library and museum at the moment are inadequate," she said. "The museum cannot do much in the way of workshops and much of the huge collection cannot be displayed."

"There is a bizarre obsession with more shops when they are closing like crazy."

Asked if she had any plans for the Town Hall buildings, she said: "That's for another time. Another public swimming pool would be lovely in that building though and a cinema is what everyone's been asking for."

Deputy leader and portfolio holder for property

and major projects David Jukes has said that he sees a mixed development with "civic amenities" on the site.

Mrs Bolsover met with Cllr Jukes and Bob Atwood, the council's leader, to discuss her ideas to transform the grot spot into a community and cultural hub.

"I think they were both quite surprised at the amount of thought I'd put in and I think they liked the space it creates," she added. "I thought they might think it was too modern. Personally, I think it needs to be modern because the current generation needs to leave their mark."

■ **What do you think? Email your views to us: tw@kosmedia.co.uk**

NEWS IN BRIEF

➔ Gold for cake company

A CAKE-maker from Tunbridge Wells has scooped a prestigious industry award.

Array of Cakes won a one-star gold Great Taste Award for its carrot cupcake at the awards organised by the Guild of Fine Food.

Owner Emma Buchanan said: "This rewards the hard work and dedication that goes into making our cakes and recognises the standards that I try and achieve with every order."

➔ Illegal TV users caught

FIGURES have revealed that more than 80 people have been caught watching TV without a licence in Tunbridge Wells this year.

This compared to more than 60 in Tonbridge, over 200 in Ashford and more than 290 in Maidstone over the same six month period.

Anyone watching TV illegally risks prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000. A colour licence costs £145.50.

➔ Council's cleaned up

TONBRIDGE & Malling Borough Council has become the first local authority in the country to be chosen by Keep Britain Tidy as an 'ambassador' partner to take the lead in a national anti-littering campaign.

The Love Where You Live campaign, which launches in September, will aim to inspire people to think about their communities and take action to reduce litter where they live and at places they visit. Full details of the scheme will be unveiled in the coming weeks.

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EXHIBITION

Tickled

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

WHEN Adam Hargreaves was six years old he asked his father what a tickle looked like.

His innocent question would provide the spark which would forever change his family's lives. Because when Mr Tickle was born so was a phenomenon.

The Mr Men would, within ten years, become a multi-million pound business. Perhaps more remarkably, this year it celebrates its 40th anniversary and it continues to be as popular, worldwide, today as ever before.

Roger Hargreaves' creation has sold close to 100 million books and been translated into dozens of languages. Even his untimely death in 1988 at the Kent & Sussex Hospital in Tunbridge Wells – aged just 53 – could not slow its relentless dive into the public's psyche.

It achieved what so few achieved – a cross-generational appeal, born from taking human characteristics and personifying them.

For the Hargreaves family it transformed their lives. Creator Roger had been desperate to make a name for himself in the world of cartoons.

But for young Adam, growing up at their home near Cowden, the experience was one that was at times difficult for him to cope with.

"I was a young age when it took off and not so aware of what my father was doing on the business side," he explains. "It was in my teens when I became aware of quite how successful he was."

"I was dreadfully embarrassed as a teenager by the whole thing. For a long time I felt very awkward about it; the fame my father achieved and the success worldwide. I think I rebelled against it, in a funny sort of way, by going into farming. It was a way of almost trying to ground myself."

Adam Hargreaves has perhaps one of the more unusual career paths. With his father enjoying huge success, he studied art at Brighton as a student. But then, his life took an unlikely change.

"I've always drawn since I can remember and always loved it," the 47-year-old father-of-two says from his home in nearby Heathfield. "I did a foundation course at Brighton Art College but quite mysteriously, even now I'm not quite sure how, I went into farming for six years."

"I loved being outside – as my paintings demonstrate – landscapes are a passion. So I think farming was a result of that."

"I worked on mainly beef and arable farms – but I did work as a dairy man for a couple of years, milking cows, but I must admit that did wear rather thin on me."



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by Mr Men and landscapes



"When my dad died, I was looking for something new to do – and that was Mr Men."

Roger Hargreaves' death was, as can only be expected, a pivotal moment in Adam's life.

"He was only 53 when he died. He had a stroke and went into hospital and then had a series of bigger strokes during the course of one day. It was all over within 24 hours. I was 24. But my sisters are seven years younger than me. It was a shocking time. It came so out of the blue.

"He was a larger than life character. He was 6ft 5in so he had a big physical presence. He was quite a joker. That sense of humour you see in the Mr Men books was certainly part of what he was – those silly puns and the teasing of us. He had a light-hearted view of life, but also strong ambition. He wanted to succeed.

"He was really chuffed with its success. I'm sure he would be cock-a-hoop to know we're celebrating the 40th anniversary and they are still successful. I think he would be rather amazed.

"I never really showed my appreciation of what a good idea he had, as he died before I really appreciated what he had created."

His untimely death would lead to Adam taking over the reins, going from milking cows to the helm of a multi-million pound business.

"The last thing I ever imagined doing was drawing Mr Men," he explains. "My Dad was the sole creator of the Mr Men and when he went there was a big hole to be filled in terms of an on-going business, the merchandising which needed to be fuelled by illustrations, artwork and design.

"I could not have been more green if I tried – stepping into the business world. But we had a very kind and tolerant agent at the time and he led me through the maze."

He would go on to create ten more characters and write hundreds of books spin-off materials.

In 2008 the family sold the rights to the Mr Men series to entertainment group Chorion in a deal worth £28m.

Today, the family have no influence over the brand – although Adam remains employed as an artistic consultant, drawing new books and materials as and when required.

The financial freedom has, however, allowed him to branch out and explore his real passion – painting.

His magnificent landscapes of the countryside in and around his home will form the backbone of a solo exhibition which takes place at Tunbridge Wells' Fairfax Gallery between September 16-29; allowing the public to glimpse a different

side to the artistic talents of a man who has entertained millions.

"It didn't frustrate me," he says of applying his artistic talents to the Mr Men, "but at the back of my mind was the idea I wanted to paint.

"I spent nearly 18 years doing Mr Men but I'd always wanted to do landscapes. It's been great over the last five years to exercise that ambition."

Now with a 23-year-old daughter and 17-year-old son, Mr Hargreaves hopes to continue the artistic legacy and admits to nervously anticipating his solo show.

"I am very excited about it, but I get quite nervous. I'm not a very social person; I'm relatively shy I guess. I hate being the focus of attention at open evenings.

"There is an element of baring your soul – certainly putting out something you're really proud of but not knowing what the reaction will be – it's quite a nerve-racking experience.

"It is very different to the Mr Men thing which is already successful and accepted – and also it wasn't my idea – that is a lot simpler and easier to put yourself out there. Painting is more personal to me."

■ **Adam Hargreaves' solo exhibition takes place at the Fairfax Gallery in the Pantiles from September 16-29. For more about Adam's art see www.adamhargreavespaintings.com.**



CREATING ART: Adam Hargreaves is following his passion for painting after 18 years continuing his father's legacy of drawing the Mr Men



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News

OLYMPICS

Do people have a passport to your sporting events?

SPORTS clubs and cultural organisations have been urged to take part in a scheme to celebrate the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council plans to give residents a 'passport' to free events and activities between January and September, 2012.

Local sports clubs and cultural organisations have been invited to use the passport to share their activities with a wider audience.

Natalie Coode, the council's sports and young people officer said: "We hope that for the passport local clubs will provide activities that will be

accessible to all. You might want to run a one off special event or open day or invite people to a taster session during your usual programme."

The council wants to promote free taster sessions, events or open days for both sporting and cultural activities.

Along with the passport, the council is running a competition with prizes for attendance and achievements at the featured events.

If you are interested in being included in the scheme, call 01892 554201 or email sports@tunbridgewells.gov.uk by Monday, August 1.

CARE

Liana's special hospital visitors

FORMULA One ace Lewis Hamilton and the director of Hollywood blockbuster Cars 2, John Lasseter, met West Malling youngster Liana Perks last week.

The four-year-old, a patient at Great Ormond Street Hospital, met the duo at an exclusive preview for patients before the film went on general release.



Mr Lasseter is chief creative officer of Walt Disney and Pixar Animation Studios. The

event formed part of Disney's ongoing commitment to the hospital's redevelopment.

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News

PARKS

Tonbridge parks among the finest in the country

By Jenna Pudelek

jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

TWO country parks in west Kent have received Green Flag awards again this year.

Haysden and Leybourne Lakes were judged to be welcoming, safe and well-maintained with strong community involvement.

The accolade is seen as the national standard for parks and green spaces.

Cllr Maria Heslop, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council's cabinet member for leisure, said: "I am delighted these lovely parks have been awarded Green Flags once again and I'd like to thank all the volunteer groups, rangers and of course the park's visitors for helping us to continue to improve and develop the parks."

"The Penshurst to Tonbridge cycle route passes through Haysden Country Park giving people the opportunity to appreciate the peace and quiet of a country bike ride and both the play area and the play trail at Leybourne Lakes Country Park are proving to be popular



ACCOLADE: Haysden Country Park was awarded the Green Flag

with children and adults alike, bring another dimension to 'going for a walk in the park'. It's great to see the Green Flag flying high once again over these two parks as families enjoy all they have to offer during the summer holidays."

It is the sixth year that Haysden Country Park has been awarded a Green Flag. Set in 165 acres of countryside in the Medway Valley to the west of Tonbridge, the park has a range of habitats where insects, birds and animals thrive including grassland, freshwater lakes,

marshland and woodland.

The park has play sculptures and an oak sculpture in Friendship Wood to commemorate the 25 anniversary of twinning between the borough and Heusenstamm in Germany. Haysden is also a designated Local Nature Reserve and visitors can enjoy the trails winding through the park.

Leybourne Lakes Country Park is a 230-acre park between the towns of Snodland and Larkfield. This is the fifth year it has been awarded a Green Flag.

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Lara Gray shares her experience of The Strand, Gillingham

A lovely place to take the children during the spring/summer months particularly. My daughter and her friends have enjoyed the sandpits, miniature train, large play park and swimming pools especially, since they were babies. A real cheap but fun day out in Medway. **Lara Gray**



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News

CHARITY

Cyclist puts the cogs in motion to raise cash for crisis in Africa



PEDAL POWER: Stuart Knight

By **Jenna Pudelek**
jenna.pudelek@archant.co.uk

A 23-YEAR-OLD from Tunbridge Wells has embarked on a 90-mile a day bike ride through Europe to raise money to tackle poverty in Africa.

Trainee solicitor **Stuart Knight** began his adventure to Barcelona on Sunday joined by his friend from college **Adam Cusworth**.

Money raised from the trip will go to FARM-Africa, an international non-governmental organisation that works with rural smallholders, and forest and nomadic communities in eastern Africa to help families tackle rural poverty.

He said: "The worsening drought in eastern Africa is

threatening to develop into a humanitarian catastrophe and widespread starvation.

"I felt raising money for FARM-Africa was the best way I could contribute to addressing this potential crisis for some of the world's most vulnerable people.

"What I like about FARM-Africa is their long-term approach to finding solutions to food poverty in Africa."

Mr Knight has been training three to four hours a day by cycling through Kent and neighbouring counties.

However, he admitted that cycling from Tunbridge Wells to East Grinstead over the South Downs is nothing compared to the gruelling climb through the Pyrenees he faces

before arriving in Barcelona.

On Sunday, the cyclists caught a ferry from Portsmouth to Le Havre. They will then travel through France to Bordeaux before heading down to Perpignan where they will start their climb through the Pyrenees into Spain.

Mr Knight is aiming to raise £500 and the international law firm **Herbert Smith LLP**, where he starts work on his return, has agreed to donate an extra £250.

FARM-Africa invests in sustainable wealth creation for the 80 per cent of Africans who rely on their crops and animals to survive.

■ To donate visit www.justgiving.com/stuartsthunderthighs.

Mai 28th October 23rd 2011 / Château d'Hardelot, Condette



THE INIMITABLE, CHARLES DICKENS

The various different aspects of the life of this seasoned traveler, whose holiday destinations included Condette, will be explored between May 28th and October 23rd at the Château d'Hardelot. The majority of the items and manuscripts featured in the exhibition are being presented in France for the first time.

Many thanks to : Charles Dickens Museum, Londres - Victoria and Albert Museum, Londres - The Dickens House Museum, Broadstairs - Guildhall Museum, Rochester - P. Fitzgerald collection, Medway Archives, Strood

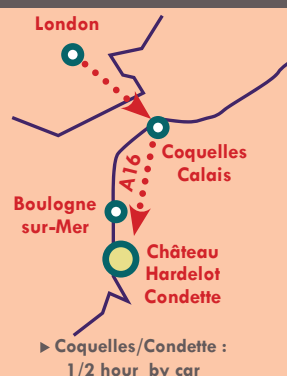
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DICKENS 2012



News

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ENTERTAINMENT

Vintage is the word on Pantiles



By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

THE Pantiles' first Vintage Fair and Flea Market proved a big hit last weekend as up to 10,000 people flocked for a taste of times gone by at the historic parade.

Featuring entertainment on the bandstand themed from the 1940s and 50s, there were also dance displays and talks from vintage experts as well as over 30 stalls.

It was the latest big success story for the Pantiles, which has seen a new lease of life since new blood took over the running of the Association of Pantiles Traders.

Chairman Richard Simm said: "Vintage is hugely in vogue. A younger generation are discovering and embracing mid-century style, while the older generation are happy to immerse themselves in the nostalgia of the era.

"It was a fun, stylish and sometimes brilliantly eccentric weekend.



Pictures: DAVID BARTHOLOMEW AND JOANNA KEY

OLD SCHOOL: The first Vintage Fair was a ripping success

"It proved a worthy sequel to May's food festival, which attracted thousands, so I see no reason why it can't become another regular fixture in Tunbridge Wells' busy calendar."



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Image: Doodle Drawing
Carlos Cortes

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ATTRACTIVE N/5 52yr old female, likes walks, countryside, pubs, companionship for meals out, holidays and sunshine, any buttons pressed in East Kent area, please call. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372917

47YR old female, slim, seeks tall male for relationship. West Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372783

LISA N/5, easygoing, friendly, bubbly, petite, likes swimming, football, walking, holidays, pubs, seeks male to share interests with. Eltham. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372599

PATRICIA 62, blonde, green eyes, 5ft 3ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372485

CHARLOTTE 30, sweet French female, long legs, sporty, fit and healthy, seeking well built, fit guy to share interests and show me new ones. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372687

BEAUTIFUL nurse, slim size 10, brunette, just looking for a bit of fun and good times with understanding nice younger man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372685

MONICA 35 attractive black female seeking genuine white male up to 65yrs who can appreciate good times with a lovely lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372683

FIT female 39, enjoys good conversation, laughs and walking bare foot in the grass, WLTm similar male for TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372663

KATHY attractive single woman 25, brunet, dark hair/eyes, fed up with being alone, looking older male for mutual TLC. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372661

EM attractive lady, mild mannered, nice nature, looking for happy times and exciting future with appreciative man. Call me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372659

LYNNE slim, scatty blonde, mid 50's, looking for some fun and company. Margate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386428

SOCIABLE cuddly 70's lady, GSOH, N/5, likes cinema and food, seeks genuine male for friendship. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369927

I'm Gorgeous, lively seeking a similar professional who thinks he can handle me, good times guaranteed. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369923

STUNNING blonde nurse, 32, funny and romantic, WLTm uncomplicated, reliable male, 50-65yrs for companionship and more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369921

JACQUELINE 48, medium build, likes night in/out, seeks male, 40-58 for friendship, maybe more. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370747

ACTIVE slim female 30yrs, easygoing, honest with GSOH and a passion for life looking for genuine man to fall for, 28-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370097

CAROLINE size 16, seeks kind, honest, loving gent, 45 plus for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371099

LONELY Folkstone lady 57, 5ft 1ins, medium build, N/5, seeks caring, considerate male for walks by the sea and pubs. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371067

AFRICAN female, likes cooking, travel seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366712

DONNA 47, bubbly, caring, loving, seeks genuine, loving guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370863

VERY good looking Turkish female looking to meet male 29-45 for fun friendship. Looks/race/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370183

ACTIVE solvent female with GSOH looking to start life again but this job me a lot more adventurous, care to join me? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370181

FUN loving curvy red head 32yrs, loves good food/wine, WLTm male who appreciates a real woman and knows what she likes. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365077

ACADEMIC man sought by female, recent graduate, into art, history, psychology, likes active activities as well as London art galleries and walks. Birmley. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365501

ATTRACTIVE confident, lady 37, independent, HIV Positive, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363415

FUN female 35yrs looking to let her hair down seeks easygoing N/5 guy for a relationship, 30-65. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368001

SINGLE confident black female 32yrs, very attractive, loves doing fun and interesting things, seeking a real man. Any race/age. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367999

ATTRACTIVE and any man's dream seeks, outgoing, professional male for evenings in and fun nights out. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366703

CUTE very curvy young girl, 18, WLTm role guy for lots of fun and loving. Looks/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366699

GREEN eyed blonde in need of love and attention seeks youthful, trendy experienced guy to enjoy good times. Any age/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366723

ATTRACTIVE young hearted female, fed up with being alone, so if you feel the same, give me a call, lets get together. ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366721

TALL blue eyed 30's female, brown hair, lots of interests, seeks male for good times. Any age/looks/status. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366705

ATTRACTIVE lady, seeks kind, solvent male for romance and possibly love. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360159

LOOKING for my soul mate, 57, lonely, caring, interested, likes a drink in good company. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360157

LADY 50, single, enjoys night in/out, cinema, travel, country walks, seeks sincere, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367851

ATTRACTIVE outgoing Caribbean female, seeks interesting companion for socialising, good conversation and glass of wine. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367799

YOUNG 60 something female seeking for friendship only with likeminded ladies for meals out, nights out and holidays. Feltham. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367625

PETITE brunette, blue eyes witty and fun, looking for similar kind, laid back male to sweep her off her feet. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368407

YOUNG very fit brunette 23yrs, likes to look good, seeks similar sporty guy for some relaxed fun. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368405

PETITE female, slim, attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, GSOH, romantic, likes sports, nights out, meals, seeks honest, genuine, N/5 male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334513

MALE 27, seeks older gent, 65 plus to take care of me. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362207

PATRICIA outgoing, confident, feminine, warm, friendly, smart, good company, attractive, seeks similar male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372415

FEMININE lady who knows how to treat her man seeks strong minded male to care for, any area London/Surrey/Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369695

FIT lady, 65, thinks she's 40, N/5, loves life, seeks genuine gent, 60-70 for happy loving, exciting times. Gravesend. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363111

SINGLE man, 39, likes most things, seeks male with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349999

OLD fashioned girl, 49, fun, friendly, seeks mature male for fun, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382192

GENUINE loving female, 40, seeks loving male, 40-50 for friendship and LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 345487

LADY seeks N/5, clean shaven male to appreciate artistic, romantic, feisty, attractive, slimish, curvy lady of 69 who has not yet joined the wrinkles. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349577

ISABELLE lovely lady, genuine, honest, loving, caring, 68, N/5, non drinker, slightly disabled, WLTm male for love, companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347305

28YR old scottish pretty blonde with baby blue eyes, seeks outgoing, fun, spontaneous male for friendship/more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369219

AFFECTIONATE female seeks warm hearted kind guy, if he exists, for good conversation, fun times and laughs. 40-67yrs Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369197

SHY brunette 22, perfect size 10, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, own car, seeks male to cosy up with. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369193

BETH young minded widow, 65, 5ft 5ins, happy, size 14, N/5, many interests, seeks sincere, honest gent for friendship who might admit to some aching bones. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359761

CARING young 62 petite blonde, seeks someone to share doing things with, theatre, dancing and perhaps nights in. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359761

SINGLE 50 plus female, seeks male who likes talks, walks, dining and dancing. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360951

FEMALE 25, professional, likes nights out, socialising, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360951

A rare diamond, bright, sparkly and good quality, let me put the sparkle back into your life. Wanted professional, attractive male, 38-58, medium build, 5ft 8ins. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361005

LADY slim, brunette, N/5, likes music, National Trust, theatre, days out, seeks sincere, honest gent, 48-60 for friendship, maybe more. Kent/Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360633

GORGEOUS lonely lass, 45, looking for some romantic liaisons with younger male, looks impressive, no chances. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364415

MARY 60, good for age, GSOH, likes cooking, meals out, looking for some fun company, possible romance. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364357

57YR old lady, works, divorced, likes beach, meals out, theatre, travel, weekends away, seeks white male, 56-61 with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359685

YOUNG 54yr old female, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest, caring guy for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362669

SALLY petite, confident lady, happy go lucky, likes dancing, walks, TV, seeks male/sol male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 362665

30YR old brunette fit, feminine, attractive, free, single and looking for love with similar fun loving guy. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365077

38YR old female looking for mutual companionship with understanding man stuck in a similar rut. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364331

NATALIA attractive, brunette, brown eyes, 40's, N/5, slim, fit, friendly, seeks sincere, N/5, solvent male for love and relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 343493

28YR old brunette, seeks fun loving, adventurous male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380919

LISA 42, medium build, likes cooking, walks, music, days in/out, WLTm caring, down to earth, male, 40-60. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332817

OUTGOING sincere 5ft 6ins lady WLTm tall, caring interesting male 70's to share life's adventure. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 357959

MALE Guardian reader? Arty, vivacious female, 61, happy in own skin, seeks N/5 sociable, warm, loving man. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360655

SUZANNE 35, beautiful blonde, seeks male for chats and a relaxing glass of wine anytime. ACA, status unimportant. City area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342527

PROFESSIONAL black lady, 44, 5ft 3ins, medium build, seeks genuine, caring, professional guy, 40-54, any race for relationship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 359586

CARING genuine single mum seeks male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 358719

CLARE 31, likes swimming, gym, socialising, meals out, sightseeing, seeks male, Ramsgate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353243

ATTRACTIVE slim single mum, 44, seeks similar tall male, 40-50, caring, loving and loyal, are you? Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334393

LORNA 66, nurse, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 364237

42YR old female, likes music, dancing, writing, astrology, cats, seeks male with GSOH and similar age. Medway. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351577

48YR old female, average build, good looking, likes most things, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363321

FUN outgoing lady, seeks spontaneous male, 37-60, adventurous, professional, attractive. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 363331

PRETTY woman, slim, black, widow, 39, energetic, seeks white, solvent male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 360695

52YR old female, likes walks, animals, theatre, cinema, seeks male for companionship/LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 357291

LATE 20's female seeking older male. Call to hear exactly what I'm like and looking for. I can meet anywhere in London at any time. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356995

64YR old female, 5ft 2ins, GSOH, likes golf, seeks male with GSOH for friendship, days out, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339581

SALLY independent, intelligent, confident, caring female, seeking a similar soul mate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 361575

INDEPENDENT 52yr old slim, N/5 female, likes country walks, swimming, animals, meals/day out, seeks N/5 similar aged male for friendship/companionship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366099

Men Seeking

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(T&C's below)

FRED young 72, seeking female, 60 plus for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372933

THANET male 53, 6ft, seeks slim-medium build female, 45 plus to take away the loneliness times and share TLC together. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372849

RICHARD 46, dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, loving, easygoing, likes holidays, music, theatre, countryside, walks, bowling, seeks female up to 60 for friendship, maybe more. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387058

JACK 33, likes nights in/out, country drives seeks female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372645

JOHN retired widower, seeks female for friendship. Redhill. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372581

FUN loving professional male, 42, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for relationship. Animals/children welcome. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387032

DAVID 49, blue eyes, seeking fun loving lady for kisses and cuddles, lets have fun together. SE Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372435

ALAN seeks young lady to love me for who I am in a LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372171

PAUL 48, 5ft 8ins, GSOH, likes music, cinema, seeks female for fun, friendship, LTR. Tunbridge Wells. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371985

LATE 60's male, honest, kind, 5ft 9ins, many interests, seeks loving lady for LTR. Ramsgate. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371919

GOOD looking 43yr old fit guy, seeks female for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386896

PAUL 47, large build, likes beach, cinema, music, seeks female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370699

GENUINE male, 53, Steve, slim, GSOH, great personality, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386628

RICHARD dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, slim-medium build, easygoing, loving, likes theatre, cinema, meals out, walks, countryside, seeks female, 37-60 for LTR. Ashford. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386622

38YR old male, medium build, grey hair, blue eyes, seeks female for fun times. Maidstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386616

39YR old handsome gent seeks young at heart mature lady for days out, shopping and good conversation. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 370481

DEREK 46, slim, genuine, seeks Foreign lady for possible LTR. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386438

JEFF 58, well built, 6ft, extra large chest seeking a female for fun and friendship. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386412

67YR old widower, likes real ale, 60's rock/roll, looking for lady to add some spice to life. Folkstone. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372397

YOUNGISH 49yr old dad, like winning/dining, days out, seeking an attractive female for LTR. Dover. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372171

RICHARD 70, 5ft 10ins, medium build, seeks nice, N/5 lady, 60-70 for loving relationship. Herne Bay. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372157

66YR old lonely man, seeks new partner for new life in Cyprus where I live. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372131

38YR old male, olive skin, loving, caring, likes animals, walks, countryside, seeks blonde, slim lady, 25-35 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386396

FIT young active 65yr old male, medium build, dog owner, likes countryside, seeks similar active lady. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369011

PROFESSIONAL male, 62, generous, fun loving, seeks non assertive lady for special relationship. Farnham. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367191

DAVID 58, its Spring and I am looking for an easygoing lady for a LTR. East Sussex. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367157

PAUL 56, decorator, 5ft 8ins, cropped hair, attractive, genuine, kind, likes theatre, pubs, seeks female, 50-60. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367159

ADVENTUROUS attractive young man, 30's, great personality, seeks mature female to share happy loving moments, laughter and amazing spiritual summer. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367973

LEWIS 40, seeks nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367719

DAVE own hair/breath, own car/business, likes holidays, golf, gym, meals out, theatre, seeks honest, genuine, slim female with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367559

SLIM easygoing, friendly male, 50, likes kisses and cuddles, seeks petite female, any age for fun times. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 365904

DARREN 39, 6ft 3ins, medium build, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 368807

TALL attractive, mature male, seeks slim, petite, seductive lady for good times. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 367999

BLACK male, 48, bubbly, seeks voluptuous, white female, 18-45 for friendship, maybe more. London. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 366681

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81 guy looking for older gent, 60-60's for fun. Severnaks area. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 372943

MALE mid 40's, seeking older man for fun and affectionate times. Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387108

ATTRACTIVE independent male, 40's, likes music, cinema, historic houses, good food, countryside, seeks assertive, congenial mature male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 371413

NICE guy 31, CD, 5ft 7ins, seeking an older gent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386186

ACTIVE gay male, 80, likes cinema, music, seeks affectionate friendship with similar 75-85yr old male. East Kent. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369673

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News

CARE

Feathered additions to residential home



By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

A RESIDENTIAL home has welcomed six new inhabitants – of the feathered variety.

Mount Ephraim House in Tunbridge Wells is now home to six black rock chickens which are being cared for by staff and residents in a specially constructed coop in the grounds of the 17th century house.

The initiative is part of the Eden Alternative which promotes quality of life in care homes, aiming to eliminate loneliness, helplessness and boredom.

Karen Cooper, manager at Mount Ephraim House, said: "We feel it's vital to provide a stimulating environment and so are constantly striving to provide new activities; our residents are certainly getting a bit of excitement now. The chickens settled in well, producing

eggs after just a couple of days, and everyone is now very excited at the prospect of fresh eggs for breakfast.

"The garden has recently undergone a transformation, not only with the new chicken coop but also with the installation of an art studio and a vegetable patch which residents are taking great delight in tending."

A ceremony was recently held where residents and staff named their feathered friends according to their distinguishing features and personalities. Karen, which staff say is the bossy hen who pecks at the others, joins Sybil, Ethel, Henrietta, Ruby and BBQ.

Mrs Cooper, who is regularly donning her dungarees to clean out the coop, continued: "We are very pleased that staff, relatives and residents are all getting involved in this egg-citing opportunity, offering to help out whenever they can."

PLUCKY: One of the new chickens has been named after manager Karen Cooper, who rules the roost at the home

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OPINION

Don't think we're all corrupt

Chief Constable Ian Learmonth defends Kent Police, reminding us that the service are actively pursuing corruption and continuing to fight crime

IT is impossible to turn on the television or open a newspaper at the moment without seeing the police service being accused of the most serious wrongdoing.

Much of this criticism is lazy, ill-informed, and, when you dig into the detail, is just plain wrong.

The words 'police corruption' – the most heinous and dishonourable accusation that can be levelled against a police officer – are being bandied about with little concern for the facts.

Clearly there are issues to be investigated around phone hacking, but this does not warrant some individuals and organisations attempting to tar 140,000 dedicated public servants with the same brush. To do so is offensive and irresponsible.

Corruption is not prevalent in the police service, and I can-

not allow any suggestion that it is to go unchallenged.

My view is well known on corruption – deal with it swiftly and decisively.

We do not want people like that in the service and Kent Police has an excellent record of identifying and dealing with that tiny proportion of officers who choose to disregard their Oath of Office and abuse the trust the public have given us.

It is worth remembering that in virtually every instance corrupt officers are uncovered by the work of other police officers – we are the first people to take responsibility, and to hold and be held to account when corruption surfaces.

Is there any other organisation that actively pursues corruption in the way the police service does?

The police service is still one of the most respected institu-

tions and professions in British society, and rightly so.

I see exemplary and selfless acts by Kent Police officers every day that show that sacred trust is justified.

For example the officers who recently dived into a lake in perilous conditions to save the life of a motorist who had become trapped in her car; they rescued her and saved her life without a thought for their own safety. Or the two unarmed colleagues who only two weeks ago disarmed a man who took aim at them with a handgun.

We are in the only job where your instinct is to run towards danger rather than away from it.

I do not want the current national issues around phone hacking to give a distorted picture of policing in Kent.

Overall, crime has fallen again in the county over the



6699
We are in the only job where the instinct is to run towards danger not away from it

last year, with significant reductions in crimes like burglary and criminal damage. This marks five years of sustained success in driving crime down.

Kent is one of the safest places to live in the UK, despite the challenge of having over 30 million people visit and travel through the county each year going to and from Europe.

Our work at Kent's ports and the Channel Tunnel helps to keep the whole country safe from terrorism and is a major bulwark against illegal immigration and organised crime.

I would ask that the people of Kent do one thing – judge us on our results, their interactions with us day in and day out, and trust me and my officers to keep them safe, lock up criminals, and act with the highest standards of integrity.

KOS COMMENT

The Regeneration Game's latest twist

BEFORE long, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council must push on, one way or the other, with plans for the civic complex. Having quite sensibly paused to collect its thoughts under a new administration, there is a danger that level-headed reflection could be replaced with overwhelming nerves about making a decision and the public reaction. Treading water can be exhausting. Inaction or indecisiveness potentially political suicide.

Why the news is not all doom and gloom

IN a week filled with death and destruction, it is easy to feel rather glum. But this week's paper surely should give us all hope. From charity efforts to help the disadvantaged both here or abroad, to pro-active steps taken by traders to enhance areas for the benefit of the whole community, there is much to admire. It is easy to dwell on the negative and not highlight the positive, yet by broadening our horizons there remains much to put a smile back on our face.

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Knole Park Cricket Ground, at Sevenoaks
by Maria Gioberti

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Deans must be alert to issue

ONE read with interest Jenna Pudelek's report 'New chief executive takes over at mental health trust' last week, concerning the recent appointment of Bob Deans as chief executive of the Kent & Medway NHS and Social Partnership NHS Trust.

As a service-user of Tunbridge Wells Mental Health Resource (a registered local charity providing support services for people with mental illness in west Kent) and one who suffers from both generalised anxiety disorder and depression, I wish Mr Deans well in his new position, but would urge him to be mindful of the invaluable role of voluntary sector providers (eg. TWMHR) when commissioning services.

Without wishing to offend Mr Deans or tell him how to do his job, I am sure he is only too aware – even if, sadly, many elected local authority and central government representatives are not – that not only will at least one in four

people suffer some form of mental illness at some stage in their lives, but it is imperative when demanding clear visible 'results' and successful 'outcomes' from pet-funded projects he and others view 'success' in terms of how well those plagued with mental illness manage their illness, rather than simply the number of people cured and the frequency they are cured.

Often mental illness is a long-term condition not a short-term sickness and, for that reason, it is important to address the holistic needs of the sufferer and not simply view them as simply another anonymous statistic plagued with a mental health problem. To that end, all of us have a role to play by taking time to listen to the needs of those plagued with mental health problems and tackle the stigma associated with it.

Christopher Luke,
Tunbridge Wells

Arts festival hit right note

I DON'T know where John Humphrey gets his informa-

tion from (Letters, last week) when he suggests the Sevenoaks Three Arts Festival was "absorbed" by the Sevenoaks Summer Festival in the 1970s. This is far from the case as the two exist for very separate reasons.

The Three Arts Festival (founded in 1951) is a competitive festival, on the lines of a Welsh Eisteddfod, holding classes every year for speech/drama, singing and all types of musical instruments.

It involves several hundred competitors, mainly school-age children, but overall the ages range between four and (last year) 96, whose performances receive appraisal from a team of adjudicators all eminent in their particular field.

The finale of the festival, the prizewinners' concert (presented as part of the Sevenoaks Summer Festival, which perhaps is where the confusion arises), consists of performances attaining the highest marks and is an inspiring celebration of the amazing range of talent that exists in this area and further afield.

Rupert Sutton, mentioned in Mr Humphrey's letter, is one of many local musicians

and other citizens interested in the performing arts, who over the years have presented cups to be awarded for specific disciplines in the festival – his cup is for violin playing.

Interestingly, there is an Ella Sutton Cup for mime, although I don't know whether she was his wife.

The two festivals make an equally valuable contribution to the cultural life of Sevenoaks. In 1995 June Clements, then a member of the Three Arts Festival committee, proposed the inauguration of the Sevenoaks Young Musician of the Year competition which the festival has run ever since and which has become one of Britain's highly respected competitions of this type.

For further information visit www.sevenoaksthreeartsfestival.co.uk.

Margaret Holgate, Sevenoaks

Homelessness is of no benefit

RESEARCH has shown cuts in housing benefit will hit households in every part of Kent and Medway.

At present, claimants

include low-paid workers, unemployed job seekers and low-income pensioners.

Cuts mean claimants will only have access to the cheapest 30 per cent of rental properties, instead of the cheapest 50 per cent available before. About 15 per cent of households affected will lose more than £150 per week.

Proposed changes to housing benefit for people in supported housing by the Department for Work and Pensions are particularly cruel. They take no account of the resulting hardship. There are problems with the existing system, but these proposals are not the answer.

Homelessness in Kent has risen by a quarter in a year. Kent Green Party has already expressed concern about housing policies in Kent and Medway in its review of countywide housing policies.

We believe the costs of housing benefit can be reduced by introducing a living wage for Kent and Medway of £8.10 per hour. Also, the Right-to-Buy in council housing should end, to conserve this housing to meet demand.

Kent's population growth is

estimated at more than 200,000 people in the next two decades and affordable housing need at about 12,000 units per year.

This makes it imperative to bring all empty homes and brownfield sites into use.

Dr Hazel Dawe,
Kent Green Party, Tonbridge

Culture over retail therapy

IT WAS encouraging to read council leader Bob Atwood's comments in your newspaper last week with regard cultural provision in Tunbridge Wells.

We are not blessed with major venues within a short drive, therefore it is, in my opinion, imperative the town maintains and, indeed, builds on its reputation for the arts.

Nothing would give me greater joy than seeing the old cinema site transformed into a place where drama, film and art could be showcased. With the Assembly Hall and Trinity so nearby it would create a cultural area of the town, supplemented by those efforts in the Pantiles and Camden Road. In fact, by promoting other galleries or places of entertainment, it could act as a wonderful sign-post to just how rich this town's offerings are.

None of this enrichment could, I believe, be bettered if the site is simply turned into another big chain store. It is, ultimately, too easy to think of the short-term gain of a major retailer as opposed to the long-term benefits and quality of life which can be offered by something more creative.

It has been said before, but look at how Brighton has flourished as a result of its decision to trumpet culture while providing a strong retail offering too.

Mrs J Dean, Rusthall

Heroes stand tall wherever

MOVING the war memorial in Tunbridge Wells should not be seen as "an insult" to those who perished.

I do not, for one moment, believe those in charge of the town would be stupid enough to not position it somewhere of significance in any reshaped town centre, and, who knows, it may actually prove a better place than being stuck between queues waiting for a bus.

L Potter, Tunbridge Wells

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DMS Endorse the Fostering Campaign.

FOSTERING

A caring nature is key to becoming a foster parent

By Ed Hill

ed.hill@archant.co.uk

ACCORDING to the Fostering Network, more than 57,000 children live with foster families in the UK – so what is in store for those adults who decide to offer a home to children?

There is no age limit but you will have to go through a selection process that can take up to seven months.

Most children will continue to have contact with their birth parents. They may be placed with a foster carer just for a short time while a parent is in hospital or for longer periods while issues are resolved in a family, so foster carers have to be prepared to look after a number of children through the years.

Applicants might think the immediate body to approach regarding fostering would be their local authority, but there are also independent agencies.

The Integrated Service Programme (ISP), based in Sittingbourne, specialises in finding placements for children who are harder to home with carers.

A spokeswoman for the agency said: "The local authority usually has foster carers who look after children who are younger or less challenging. They turn to us because they do not have the resources to support carers that an independent agency has."

When making a referral the agency tries to match a prospective foster carer with the child, but the local authority will make the final decision.

Agencies such as ISP have therapists and support workers on hand to help.



They also run a school near Teynham, where children with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties are educated in a safe environment and can continue to have contact with their birth parents.

The spokeswoman said: "We always try to get them in a mainstream school but it is not always possible."

Not surprisingly, many children who need foster care have difficult backgrounds. They may have suffered from abuse or trauma leading to emotional problems, so an agency must be confident foster parents will be able to cope.

The spokeswoman said: "It is a tough process. We have a four or five-day course that they attend initially. There is usually a good response



REWARDING: Giving foster children a home can help them through a difficult period in their lives

but we may have a few applicants drop out early when they realise it is not for them."

One practical problem is the need to have a spare room.

The spokeswoman said: "Every foster child has to have their own room unless they are siblings and sharing is agreed."

"Prior to being finally approved, our foster carers will spend a couple of months with an independent social worker doing a very thorough assessment of their whole history."

But whatever your background, as long as you can devote the time to create a safe, caring environment for a child, agencies want to hear from you.

The ISP spokeswoman said: "They don't have to be parents themselves. We have all different kinds of people. We have couples, same-sex couples, single carers, but obviously they have to have a caring nature."

Opening your home up to children with disabilities

FOSTER care can provide parents or guardians with the satisfaction of raising a child or giving a youngster a new home.

And there is more need than ever for prospective carers to come forward and provide a loving environment for children with disabilities.

Many people from all walks of life want to take up the rewarding job of fostering, but for guardians who have no experience of caring for disabled youngsters, training and support is needed before they can begin to make a difference.

Kent company Credo Care is one of those which specialises in recruiting, training and supporting carers to meet the needs of disabled children.

Based in Romney Marsh, Credo Care has been recruiting and guiding new foster parents to focus on youngsters

with autism, cerebral palsy, gastrostomies, and learning difficulties.

A spokesman from the not-for-profit company said: "We respond to requests from local authority social services departments to place children when they are unable to continue to live with their parents."

"The children may need foster care if their parents feel unable to cope with the demands of providing direct care for the child, or if the child has been removed for their own safety."

The group was originally created by social work chief Roy Hipkiss, and priest Damien Mead, to benefit all youngsters in need of care, but the pair have since decided to specialise in those children with disabilities.

The company is also the only foster care provider in

the UK accredited with the National Autistic Society.

The spokesman added: "When we place children our staff complete a comprehensive assessment of needs and ensure foster carers receive full training and have support systems in place to ensure placements succeed."

Benefits are there to see for guardians and parents who can better themselves with new levels of education through the foster care of youngsters, with companies like Credo Care offering a Children's Workforce Development Council NVQ 3 on completion of training.

The support network for prospective parents is also better than ever, as carers for disabled children can be offered up to 21 nights of 'respite care' a year.

The group has been rated as outstanding by the schools watchdog Ofsted and Credo

Care also offers fostering allowances of up to £500 per week per child plus benefits.

The spokesman added that improving a child's life can be the most satisfying thing for any parent.

He said: "The company has benefited, and taken pleasure, in the work of some excellent staff and foster carers who provide the best foster placements for some of the most difficult to place children."

"There are countless examples of the brilliant achievements of Credo's children, some of whom have limited life expectancy."

"Everyone connected to the agency believes very strongly that all disabled children deserve the opportunity to live in families, and will continue to find carers and offer these chances to children in residential care and long-term hospital."



HELP: Foster parents for disabled children are desperately needed

My Money 24

Online this week at
www.mymoney24.co.uk:

This opportunity is not that healthy

Q I HAVE recently had problems with a company called Vitamail, sending items to me that I had not ordered and then taking payment from my bank account. I did place an order for one item, but Vitamail included something I had not ordered and charged me £24 for it. A few days later I received a parcel of several items – none of which I had ordered – and Vitamail took another £71 from my account. According to the delivery note, my order was placed by phone – but I have no phone number for the company. I asked my bank to reverse the payments, but it says it cannot do this. All the bank will do is put a note on my file to stop any further payments. As a pensioner, I cannot afford to lose £95.

A Vitamail has used post office box numbers in London and Bedford, but in fact this is a French company. Its real name is not even Vitamail – it is Promondo – and it has been scamming people in Britain for years. It churns out huge numbers of letters, telling people they have won thousands of pounds. Some letters are accompanied by mock cheques. All you have to do to claim your prize is return a form, which handily turns out to be an order form as well, for Vitamail's health supplements and bathroom products. The letters are cleverly worded so that people believe they have already won a fortune. The truth is that all they have got is an entry in a sweepstake, along with thousands and thousands of others. Vitamail is very good at whipping up enthusiasm so customers believe a big win is just around the corner, if only they place one more order. I first investigated complaints against Vitamail about five years ago and was told the Advertising Standards Authority would enlist the help of European consumer protection watchdogs to take action. Since then, nothing seems to have happened, despite warnings against Vitamail from some trading standards officials. This should not let your bank off the hook, though. Demand to know by what right the bank chooses to believe that you ordered the unwanted goods. Is the bank really putting Vitamail ahead of you, its customer? And if the bank refuses to change its mind, and won't snatch back the cash from Vitamail's bank, complain to the Financial Ombudsman (0800 023 4567).

Q THANK you for looking into my problem with travel company Ken Clarkson Ltd. When you printed my letter in June, you reported that insolvency practitioners in Birmingham had called a meeting of creditors, but they have told me they are no longer involved.

TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC



A The collapse of Ken Clarkson is looking more and more curious. Its director, Muhammad Wazim Anjum, placed an official announcement in the Government's London Gazette, calling a meeting of creditors and saying that details of the company's debts could be obtained from an insolvency firm in Birmingham. But the insolvency firm backed out and the meeting was called off. So does this mean the company is still in business? Well, no, it doesn't. Details of who owns Ken Clarkson were due at Companies House in Cardiff in March. They failed to arrive, and at the end of June officials started legal proceedings to strike the company off, meaning it would cease to exist. Then suddenly, on July 20, those proceedings were put on ice. This usually means an official investigation has begun, or that someone like you who is owed money has started court proceedings, so the company will not be wound up just yet. Of course, you could sue the company for the return of the money you paid in advance for your trip. You could do this in person or through a solicitor. But do be aware that the company almost certainly has no cash to pay you – even if you win in court. The big question is, where did the money go?

Q I RECEIVED a letter from a credit card company, thanking me for my application. However, I made no such application. On closer inspection, I realised the letter was addressed to me, but with the title "Mrs", even though I am not married. Can you offer any advice?

A IF THIS was definitely a personal letter, and not some sort of mass mailshot, then it appears someone has used your name to try to get a credit card. It could even be someone who has access to your home. Inform the card company immediately. Ask for a copy of the application in case you can recognise the writing. And it would be worth monitoring your credit agency file in case the trickster has already used your name elsewhere.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. Neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.

British Gas fined for complaints failings

By Adam Aiken

MyMoney 24 editor

BRITISH Gas has been hit with a £2.5 million fine for failing to deal with customer complaints properly.

The company, which supplies nearly half of all UK households, was fined by energy regulator Ofgem for failing to reopen complaint cases when customers claimed their issues had not been resolved.

The move will be particularly embarrassing for British Gas, which announced massive price rises only recently. Nine million of its customers will be hit when the supplier raises gas and electricity prices by an average of 18pc and 16pc respectively from the middle of August.

It was found guilty of breaching regulations that set standards for complaint handling – rules that

came into effect three years ago.

"Today's finding highlights basic failures in British Gas's customer service, particularly in dealing with some of its small business customers, and shows Ofgem's commitment to use its powers to ensure suppliers treat customers fairly and transparently," said Sarah Harrison, senior partner for sustainable development at Ofgem.

"We warned the industry in March that we would be backing up our plans to reform the retail market with a tough approach to enforcement."

British Gas said Ofgem's finding was "totally disproportionate", but it did admit it failed on the issue of dealing with "micro-businesses".

A spokesman said: "We knew we had an issue, which is why we flagged it to Ofgem. After a £4m investment, we are now confident we meet all of

our regulatory requirements."

Ofgem's inquiries are not focused solely on British Gas.

It is investigating npower and EDF Energy for complaint handling, while Scottish Power, Scottish and Southern Energy, EDF Energy, and npower are being investigated for mis-selling.

There are also investigations into Scottish Power under way, for potentially misleading marketing and the difference between its standard credit and direct-debit tariffs.

Although the British Gas focuses mainly on the company's small-business customers, analysts said the issue affected both consumers and businesses.

James Constant, of Uswitch.com, said: "Ofgem's fine sends a very clear message to suppliers that the treatment of customers and handling of complaints needs to improve."



WRONG NUMBER: Millions of people are wasting money buying standalone insurance policies for mobile phones when their home policies provide adequate coverage

Don't waste money on phone insurance

MILLIONS of people are paying for mobile phone insurance policies they don't need.

According to a study of the burgeoning market, more than five-and-a-half million mobile users could be doubling-up on their insurance by buying standalone policies even though their home insurers already provide them with cover.

Networks and phone retailers often encourage customers to take out insurance for new handsets at the point of purchase, and Giffgaff – which compiled the research – said

the average monthly charge for this kind of policy is £8.20.

This means that if someone already has sufficient cover via a home insurance policy, more than £100 a year is being thrown away on something that isn't needed.

The situation can be even worse with smartphones which can cost up to £14 a month to insure through standalone policies.

"The rise of the smartphone has seen a rise in the uptake of insurance policies, so it's really important that consumers are aware of which

policies cover their handsets, to avoid paying over the odds," said Mike Fairman, chief executive of Sim-only network Giffgaff.

"The mobile retailers will only be too happy to sign people up to the higher-premium insurance policies, and they often apply the pressure using scare tactics to make consumers sign up on the spot.

"I'd urge anyone who's thinking about insuring their handset to check with their home insurance provider to avoid wasting their hard-earned money."



INSIDE THIS WEEK

THE latest Gross Domestic Product figure shows the economy expanded by just 0.2 per cent in the last quarter, down from 0.5 per cent in Q1. The figure suggests growth is slowing and perilously close to the dreaded minus number of recession. Kent and Medway's Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) has called for immediate VAT cuts to be implemented in a bid to boost growth across the region. The FSB has also urged the Government to extend National Insurance holidays given to firms in the north and west of the UK to companies across the South East.

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Garden of England: the home of eco-business

By **Simon Robinson**

simon.robinson@archant.co.uk

KCC leader Paul Carter has unveiled plans to build on the county's blossoming eco-economy.

Speaking at the launch of the authority's latest green scheme, entitled Growing the Garden of England: A Strategy for Environment and Economy in Kent, Cllr Carter said he wanted to encourage more industry leaders to invest in the county.

"Earlier this year, we sat down with around 100 businesses at Kent's first low carbon sector conversation to listen to what these companies needed to grow," he said.

"We're now acting on what they told us. We want to develop Kent as a leading location for renewable energy, cleantech and environmental technologies, building on our engineering and manufacturing base, and our massive potential in the renewable sector.

"Our Environment and Economy Strategy and the investment in green business will directly support new private sector economic growth and jobs.

"We want to develop our business supply chains using Kent's new 'Green Chain' directory



GREEN TEAM:

Swale council leader Andrew Bowles, KCC leader Paul Carter, Thanet South MP Laura Sandys, and H+H managing director Mark Oliver

to promote local suppliers of emerging green technologies and services.

"And we want to slash energy bills through better insulation, establishing a new market for Kent firms in fitting homes and businesses with energy saving devices and renewable technology where it's proven they can make a demonstrable difference and really cut fuel bills.

"We also know that businesses and employees want a high quality environment in which to work. The combination of our 'Garden of England' countryside, excellent transport links to Europe and quality of life are unrivalled.

"We must continue to safeguard our precious natural environment."

The strategy, launched in Thanet, was supported by the town's MP, Laura Sandys, who welcomed the commitment to the green economy.

She said: "Kent is already emerging as the county of choice for green investment.

"With two of the largest wind farms in the world, east Kent now has a concentration of forward-thinking, innovative green companies, making Kent a prime location for the roll-out of more low carbon industries and training facilities.

"By recognising the immense opportunities attached to the green economy, we have ensured green industry is central to Kent's vision for local jobs and future growth.

"The Launch of the Kent Environment Strategy will ensure that Kent owns this economic opportunity. With the green sector valued at an incredible £3.2 trillion, this is good news for small businesses, investors and residents alike."

Cllr Carter concluded: "By working together this environment and economy strategy shows how we can begin to truly unlock our environmental potential for the benefit of all who live, work or visit Kent.

I want Kent to be the place of choice for the green industry."

ACQUISITION

Saco snaps up AEI in £8.6m deal

PLASTICS manufacturer AEI Compounds has been bought out in an £8.6 million deal.

The Sandwich-based firm, which supplies to the wire and cable industry in the European, Middle Eastern, Asian and African markets, was acquired by Saco Polymers Inc, Wisconsin, US.

The deal was funded by Centric Commercial Finance in an asset-based lending (ABL) deal.

Saco chief executive Phil Zuehlke said: "ABL is more widely used and respected in the US and I think UK businesses are just now discovering the benefits of this type of financing.

"When we approached one particular UK bank for a loan we were told that it would take three to four months for them to make a decision.

"Centric stepped up and delivered the deal within two weeks of legal instruction."

Centric's business development director Jeff Greenfield said: "Saco is acquiring a fantastic business and one that will go from strength to strength."

TRAVEL



Joint bid to take over struggling ferry route

FERRY operators DFDS and Louis Dreyfus Armateurs have submitted a joint bid for the SeaFrance Dover-Calais route.

The proposed deal is subject to a number of conditions and needs to be approved by relevant competition authorities.

If given the green light, it would bring stability to the cross-Channel passenger route, which hit troubled waters in June last year, when SeaFrance went into receivership.

A joint statement from DFDS and

Louis Dreyfus Armateurs, better known as LD Lines, read: "If the bid is successful DFDS and Louis Dreyfus Armateurs will form a jointly owned company, with DFDS as the majority shareholder, to acquire the assets of SeaFrance. It is furthermore the intention to transfer DFDS' Dover-Dunkirk route and Louis Dreyfus Armateurs' ferry shipping activities, LD Lines, to the joint company."

In 2010, SeaFrance carried close to three million passengers between Dover and Calais.

REBATE

Fruit growers will share £2m payout

FRUIT supplier Berry Gardens is set to pass on a £2 million rebate to its army of growers.

The Tonbridge co-operative, which saw turnover rise to a record £193 million in 2010, mark the return payment in spectacular fashion, with a giant cheque – measuring 24ft by 15ft – flown overhead at the Fruit Focus Show, held at the East Malling Research Institute, Maidstone, last week.

A company spokesman said: "The rebate is the largest returned to our members."

Based in Kent, Berry Gardens is one of the UK's premier soft fruit and stone fruit suppliers. Founded more than 35 years ago, Berry Gardens is the UK's leading berry production and marketing group with a 30 per cent market share during the UK season and a year round business supplying all of Britain's leading retailers.

As a co-operative, Berry Gardens is wholly owned by UK growers, making the Berry Gardens proposition unique in the UK agricultural market.

COMMENT

I AM a changed man, dear readers, thanks to The Open championship, held in Sandwich earlier this month.

Prior to the tournament I was somewhat of a London 2012 Olympic Games Scrooge, a disgruntled British taxpayer who would have rather seen countless billions of Government cash pumped into schools, the NHS and SMEs rather than thrown at the Olympics.

My logic was seemingly sound; we don't have a great record of big budget builds (Wembley Stadium, the Millennium Dome) nor the money to waste on a one-off extravagance.

But long before Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke lifted the Claret Jug at the east Kent Open, I was passionately pro-London 2012. By then it had become clear what a resounding financial success the tournament would be for Kent both in the immediate and medium-term.

Plans had been put in place to capitalise on The Open by encouraging tournament visitors back to the county in the future.

It is thought this repeat business, which will benefit not only Kent's golf courses but hotels, restaurants, travel firms and so on, could be worth £40 million – the same as the direct spend seen during The Open. The London 2012 Games give Kent another opportunity to showcase its wares to the world and this time on a truly global scale. The Games could finally give the economy the boost it needs to deliver lasting growth. With this revelation the 2012 Scrooge is no more – go Team GB!

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6699

The London 2012 Games give Kent another opportunity to showcase its wares to the world on a truly global scale



Right advice could be key to stopping your business going under

By Simon Robinson

simon.robinson@archant.co.uk

STRUGGLING High Street retailers must stay one step ahead of their competitors if they want to avoid administration, according to a leading business advisor.

Crowe Clark Whitehill, based in Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells, said firms that are being squeezed by the current downturn can take steps to secure their survival.

The advice comes after a number of big-name retailers called in administrators or announced store closures.

The list of struggling firms includes Thorntons, Jane Norman, Habitat, Mothercare and TJ Hughes.

Crowe Clark Whitehill's Mark Newman said: "Nobody can have missed the rise in the number of empty units on the high street and in shopping centres across the country.

"For retailers it is vital they take a realistic look at their own business and those of their competitors.

"Many need to consider how, if they are fighting the internet on price, they can differentiate themselves by offering a bespoke service."

Mr Norman said it was vital that financially-troubled businesses sought help from a wealth of professionals – from accountants, bankers and solicitors – as they will have seen many other businesses in the same situation and can offer advice.

He said: "Many business owners talk to friends and family, but often they will tell you what you want to hear and are rarely impartial or emotionally unattached.

"The key challenge facing most retailers is cashflow. Working with your accountant you may be able to put a case



A COMMON SIGHT: More and more high streets are seeing the closure of many retailers including big name brands such as Jane Norman and Mothercare as the current economical downturn hits cashflows

to HMRC and negotiate a 'time to pay' arrangement for future PAYE and VAT.

"If the business can survive, but it has a residue of hard-core debt, speak to your accountant or an insolvency practitioner about the various options open to the business.

"The most important thing is to act quickly, don't ignore the problem hoping it will go away, and remember to communicate with the people to whom you owe money.

"Let them know how you are addressing your cashflow issue, and assure them you will keep them informed on a regular basis.

"Retailers should also examine how important they are as customers to their suppliers, and try to arrange for stock to

be provided on a 'sale or return' basis.

"Cashflow can also be improved by negotiating with the landlord to accept monthly rental terms, or a turnover-based rent."

Mr Norman said the recent pain felt by high street retailers would have far-reaching knock-on effects.

"The plight of the high street will also ripple out across the economy," he said.

"Commercial landlords are increasingly finding themselves with empty premises, yet still having to pay business rates.

"The wholesalers, distributors and manufacturers are seeing their own sales falter, using fewer haulage companies, less packaging and other retail-related services."

Jobs go at airport as improved working patterns save £350,000

FOUR Manston Airport employees are being made redundant.

The job losses come at the end of a cost-cutting consultation programme with staff that examined working patterns.

Airport chief executive Charles Buchanan said: "As a result of this process the airport has identified more than £350,000 of savings by improving how we match our teams working times with traffic patterns. Four positions are being made redundant.

"As the airport strives to attract new business it is

important the cost base is kept as low as possible and we reduce the airport's current operating losses. Increasing the attractiveness of the airport to potential new customers will be key to ensuring the business becomes a commercial success.

"I would like to thank all our staff for the positive way in which they have contributed to the process. As a result of the consultation the airport is now on a more sustainable footing for the future as we seek to grow the business."

Paper firm adopts Smith name as part of rebranding

THE owner of Kemsley Mill has been renamed as part of a Europe-wide rebranding.

St Regis Paper Company Ltd has adopted the name DS Smith Paper Ltd as part of a wider move to align the firm within the parent DS Smith Group, a company that employs 12,000 employees in 16 countries and has a turnover of £2.4 billion.

DS Smith Paper managing director Chris Rosser said: "This change is to enable us to present ourselves with greater clarity to all of our customers, at whatever point in the supply chain, and also to our investors.

"By bringing all the various parts of the business under one single DS Smith brand we will have a much greater presence in the marketplace.

"As we look to grow our business we want the DS Smith name to be associated with being able to offer our customers something unique – fully aligned recycling, papermaking and packaging businesses with the same company."

DS Smith Paper is the leading UK producer of recycled paper. It employs 800 staff at Kemsley Mill and also has mills in Devon, Lancashire and Somerset.

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MONEY MATTERS: Figures this week showed that the UK's GDP had only risen by 0.2 per cent over the last quarter

Kent business bosses call for VAT cut to help 'stagnant' economy

GROWTH slowed to just 0.2 per cent in the last quarter, prompting Kent business bosses to make further calls for VAT cuts and additional incentives.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) figures released this week have been received differently, as is to be expected, by Chancellor George Osborne and his Labour equivalent, Ed Balls.

Tory Mr Osborne said the growth, despite being minimal, was still growth and should be viewed as positive post-recession news, while Mr Balls said the Government's hard line on cutting the budget deficit was choking the recovery.

Roger House, chairman of Federation of Small Businesses Kent and Medway, leaned more to the side of the shadow chancellor, calling

the economy "stagnant".

He said: "Indications that the economy is growing very slowly do not come as a surprise as small business confidence also fell in the second quarter of this year.

"Our FSB Kent Small Business Barometer for May, 2011, revealed that while business in the county had climbed up from the depths of the recession in October, 2008, their future prospects have remained static over the past six months.

"A minimal GDP growth of 0.2 per cent shows that the economy has remained stagnant and growth is going to remain subdued as long as consumer confidence is weak and household budgets are squeezed.

"While Government plans to encourage export-led growth

are necessary for long-term economic rebalancing, the Government badly needs to find ways to improve confidence and kick-start the recovery in the short term.

"The FSB is calling for the Employers National Insurance holiday granted to firms taking on new employees in the north and west of the UK to be extended to parts of Kent where there are high levels of unemployment and economic deprivation.

"The FSB is also calling for a cut in VAT to five per cent in the construction and tourism sectors to provide the much-needed boost to both consumer and business confidence that will help to stimulate the demand that we need for a faster economic recovery."

Ash cloud good news for Eurostar as revenues increase by 12 per cent

EUROSTAR has recorded a four per cent rise in revenue to £421 million.

The high-speed rail service, which stops at Ebbsfleet and Ashford, also saw passenger numbers rise by three per cent, from 4.6 million in the first six months of 2010, to 4.7 million during the same period this year.

Eurostar bosses said the dual increase was particularly strong given that the 2010 figures were boosted by increased revenue resulting from the volcanic ash cloud disruption in Iceland that year – with 100,000 extra customers switching to rail during the crisis.

Excluding the impact of the ash cloud, revenue rose by 12 per cent year-on-year. This was attributed to consumers prioritising leisure travel over other discretionary purchases and a spike in international passenger travel.

Eurostar chief executive Nicolas Petrovic said: "Despite the pressures on household budgets, consumers are choosing to prioritise leisure travel over other discretionary purchases.

"In this difficult economic climate, we are



finding customers attach even greater value to their leisure time and are protecting short breaks and time away with family and friends.

"The growth in the number of travellers heading for London earlier in the year has gathered momentum and in the first half international bookings have gone up by more than 20 per cent. With Royal Wedding fever, London 2012 and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on the horizon, London remains a hot destination for international visitors."

NETWORKING

Space under BIG umbrella

KENT companies are being invited to show off their wares at the UK's largest regional manufacturing exhibition.

Business Innovation Growth Kent (BIG-Kent) is urging businesses to set up stall at Southern Manufacturing 2012, held in Farnborough in February.

This year's two-date technology, electronics and subcontracting exhibition attracted 6,000 visitors.

A BIG-Kent spokesman said: "Our member companies were given the invaluable opportunity to exhibit under the BIG-Kent umbrella, providing a high value platform to increase the profile of their company on a national and international level.

"For 2012, BIG-Kent once again invites our members and local companies to join us in exhibiting at this event at our specially-reserved exhibition space."

BIG-Kent is a collaborative business network established in 2009.

For more information email wj77@gre.ac.uk or call 01634 883912.

TECHNOLOGY

Lifestyle adopts auto e-gadget

E-COMMERCE developer GForces' latest online wizardry has been snapped up by a fellow cutting-edge Kent firm.

The Bearsted-based company's Auto E-commerce platform – which allows customers to browse through cars, compare prices, read independent reviews and take a virtual test drive – has been taken up by Lifestyle Europe, which has its headquarters in Maidstone.

GForces managing director Giles Smith said: "We are delighted the first dealer in the UK to begin selling new cars online is from Kent – once again illustrating how the county leads the way in terms of developing innovative solutions for businesses and consumers alike."

Lifestyle Europe's managing director Peter Isted added: "We have taken the decision to utilise this new sales platform to enhance our business here in the South East, while also appealing to buyers further afield."

TOURISM

Britain by boat from Kent port

FIVE leading cruise companies have unveiled plans to operate round Britain breaks from Dover.

Fred. Olsen, Saga, Princess Cruises, Oceania and Crystal cruise ships will set sail from the Kent port from summer next year.

Port of Dover commercial and marketing boss Kate O'Hara said: "As the gateway to England and with the famous White Cliffs of Dover behind it, Dover Cruise Port offers the perfect start to passengers looking for an extensive choice of cruises which explore Britain's treasures.

"At a time when many families have to consider their budget this niche market offers value for money while affording an opportunity to experience the elegance and charm of a cruise."

The various round-Britain trips offered by the cruise liners stop off at locations including the Isle of Man, Guernsey, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Amsterdam.

The cruise season begins in May and runs until August.



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Keep Kent Working!
It's jobs for Kent

KCC sets up new jobs taskforce

KENT County Council has set up a taskforce to investigate how young people are preparing for the world of work.

The new Student Journey select committee will look at what types of vocational education are available, how learning and skills providers are contributing, and what careers advice is available.

Members of the taskforce have already interviewed a range of experts and will talk to young people in schools, colleges and universities from September.

Committee chairman Cllr Kit Smith said: "It may be a cliché, but young people are the future.

"We need to make sure their aspirations have no boundaries and that they have the right opportunities to gain the qualifications and skills for a rewarding career.

"In the current economic climate, competition for post-16 education, employment or training is high, and it has never been more important to make sure students leave school informed and prepared for the next stage of their lives."

Helping hand for eco-plumbers

PLUMBING solutions firm Uponor has supplied a range of equipment to the Sevenoaks Energy Academy to help workers develop their eco-credentials.

The investment comes at a time when the company is looking to provide more plumbers and installers with the skills and knowledge to carry out renewable energy installations and improve energy efficiency for their customers.

Offerings and markets manager Chris Greaves said: "Training has always been an important focus for Uponor. More than 10,000 professionals worldwide attend our seminars, gaining hands-on product, design and installation instruction.

"It is important our customers are confident in our product range, and training is an important part of that.

"We will continue to invest in training and provide more opportunities for installers to discover the merits of Uponor's plumbing and climate control solutions."

Visit www.uponor.co.uk or call 01455 550355 for more information.

Employers on board for work skills event

By Steve Knight

steve.knight@archant.co.uk

EMPLOYERS from across the county invested in the work-force of tomorrow by participating in a series of secondary school workshops.

More than 500 students at Simon Langton Girls' Grammar School took part in activities that involved them working directly with businesses such as Mowll & Mowll solicitors, Pearson UK, Pfizer, and the NHS.

While year nine children carried out their activities on the school site, girls from year 10 worked on seven different challenges set by employers as part of a three-day event called Make it Work.

Meanwhile, more than 40 students from Year 11 took part in a week's work experience as Year 12s participated in the annual Challenge of Management conference at St Lawrence cricket ground in Canterbury.

Headteacher Jane Robinson said: "These events form part of a progressive scheme of work-related learning here at Simon Langton, and we're very proud of the high quality work our students have all produced throughout this busy week.

"Employers and facilitators have been very impressed with the level of ability, creativity and maturity shown by our students."

The workshops offered to Year 9 students featured talks and practical activities about nursing, law, physiotherapy and occupational therapy, sports studies, design, creative marketing, pharmaceutical careers, clinical research, engineering, journalism and dance.

In the afternoon the girls delivered creative presentations about what they had learned.

Solicitor Amy Husk from Dover-based Mowll & Mowll said: "In the workshops we conducted a mock trial. The girls had to think really hard about important legal issues such as a defendant being innocent until proven guilty and why we have trial by jury.

"They also learned about what is involved in different roles within the legal profession, and the qualifications needed.

"The workshops clearly inspired the girls to think about a career in law in the future, as I had more questions than I could answer."

The challenges tackled by Year 10 students were set by a range of employers, including the University for the Creative Arts, NatWest, and East Kent Microbiology Services.

News for Schools set them the task of creating new publications for teenagers, and four of those who took part – Ellie Bergin, Jag Klimowicz, Miranda Lyle and Ashley Gawler – wrote an article about the experience.

They said: "Overall this has been an incredibly useful experience for the girls. It has allowed them to experience many professions and see if the subjects they were thinking of continuing were the right ones for them, as well as giving them skills for future jobs.

"Many also benefited from attending a job interview which has taught them to overcome their anxiety."



What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email steve.knight@archant.co.uk or give him a call on 01303 817136.

KNOWLEDGE: Louise Derbyshire points out the challenges wheelchair users face

Apprenticeships

Exciting opportunities throughout Kent now

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TRAINING SERVICES

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LEARNING
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Christ Church students do better than most, says national survey

A NATIONAL report has found that Canterbury Christ Church University has one of the highest rates of student employability in England.

The DLHE (Destination of Leavers from Higher Education) survey for 2009-10 revealed that 94.3 per cent of full-time first degree leavers found employment or further study within six months of leaving the university.

Canterbury Christ Church is rated 13th in England and 17th

out of all UK institutions, with most of those ranked above being specialist institutions.

Director of student support and guidance Geoff Haworth said: "This is an excellent outcome for our students, whose investment in their education is now paying dividends for them."

"Christ Church is taking forward the employability agenda and providing our students with a wide range of opportunities to develop their skills and

become the type of graduate employers are looking for.

"The survey results reflect the focus of our academy staff and employability services, and our students' success in securing work in difficult economic times."

Canterbury Christ Church has the largest number of public service-related courses in the South East – excluding London – and is one of the largest teacher training centres in the UK.

Newspaper art director given honour

SUNDAY Times art director Jeff Potter is among the former students to have received an honorary degree from the University for the Creative Arts.

An alumnus of the Maidstone College of Art – now UCA Maidstone – Mr Potter graduated in 1992 with a first class honours degree in visual communication. Within six months he joined the Sunday Times as a junior designer before working his way up to art director on the Culture magazine.

He joins other previous students including Pineapple Dance Studio founder Debbie Moore and One Young World creator Kate Robinson in being awarded honorary degrees this month.

Mr Potter said: "I feel extremely proud and honoured to receive an honorary degree from my old university. It's a real validation of my work and the years I have spent in the industry."

"You don't usually receive much praise as an art director – the credit usually goes to the journalist or photographer – so it's extra special for me to be recognised in this way."

"I hope the students are inspired by a fellow graduate receiving an honorary degree because I hope it shows them what you can do after leaving UCA."

Mr Potter has worked on various sections of the Sunday Times including books, money and business, and was put in charge of the revamped Culture section in 1999.

He has recently worked on the designs for the new iPad edition of the Times – a project rated



PROUD: Sunday Times art director Jeff Potter

the best magazine or newspaper app in the world by the iPad monitoring service iMonitor.

Vice-chancellor Prof Elaine Thomas said: "We are delighted to welcome Jeff back to the university. Since studying with us he has established an impressive career."

"His ability to adapt his design skills to move with technological changes shows our students the importance of diversification within their field."

UCA currently has 7,000 students with campuses in Canterbury, Maidstone and Rochester.

Pilot scheme success may lead to more DIY lessons for Kent teens

B&Q is planning to offer a DIY training course to schools in Medway following the success of a pilot project with the Will Adams Centre.

Young people aged 14-16 spent eight weeks learning a range of skills including how to use tools, plumbing, wallpaper hanging, laminate floor laying, woodwork, and tiling.

They completed their last session at B&Q's Gillingham store last week and were presented with certificates to

mark the occasion.

Will Adams deputy head Rodney Parr said: "B&Q opened these classes up for our young people to try and engage them in DIY."

"The new skills our young people have learned during the course are remarkable. It's all thanks to the B&Q tutors for enabling us to achieve so much in a short time."

"The young people have enjoyed their time at B&Q and have done extremely well,

gaining a whole range of new skills that will be useful to them when they leave school and in future life."

According to a survey of 2,500 people aged 18-65, only 59 per cent of under-35s know how to wire a plug compared to 86 per cent of over-50s.

Meanwhile, just 21 per cent of under-35s know how to tile a floor or wall, while 66 per cent of homeowners have unfinished DIY jobs around the home.

Training Solutions

FORTHCOMING PLANNED COURSES AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2011

Course Title	Start Date	Duration	Price
AUGUST 2011			
Providing Excellent Customer Service	16 August	½ day	£50
CIEH Award in Food Safety in Catering	17 August	1 day	£80
Building Effective Teams	23 August	½ day	£50
SEPTEMBER 2011			
BIIAB Award for Personal License Holders	12 September	1 day	£110
Infection Control	15 September	½ day	£40
Welcome Host	19 September	1 day	£90
Managing People & Teams	20 September	½ day	£50
CIEH Healthier Food & Special Diets	26 September	1 day	£80
Understanding the Management Role	27 September	½ day	£50
Behaviour Management	28 September	½ day	£40
ILM Award in First Line Management	30 September	5 days	£795

For further information please contact:
The Training Solutions Team
Tel: 01843 821580
training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk
www.thanet.ac.uk



BUSINESS TRAINING SOLUTIONS

MidKent College's dedicated training consultancy provides a professional service that is dedicated to the needs of local companies. Training courses can be delivered in-company or in the first class facilities available at the College.

Subject areas available include:

- > Building & Civil Engineering
- > Commercial & Business
- > Construction Crafts
- > Education
- > Electrical
- > Floristry
- > Health & Safety
- > Health & Social Care
- > Holistics
- > Hospitality
- > ICT
- > Logistics
- > Management
- > Office Skills
- > Plumbing
- > Security

Visit www.midkent.ac.uk/employer-zone
 for more information.
01634 402020



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Public Notices

rethink

Senior Community Development Officer

£27,261 – £29,375 pa for 37.5 hours per week
Maidstone

As the leading mental health membership charity, we are working to help everyone affected by severe mental illness recover a better quality of life. If you are an NVQ4-qualified manager, with experience of leading a service in mental health or other disability, then you could help us achieve this aim.

As Senior Community Development Officer, you will play an important role in delivering the Kent and Medway Community Development Mental Health Service for Black Minority and Ethnic Groups and other socially excluded groups. Working alongside another senior CDW this will see you lead and support a team of eleven CDW staff in working with related organisations across Kent – helping to reduce and eliminate inequalities in mental health service provision. A strong manager, you will have previous experience of having worked with or for BME communities and other socially excluded groups, either in the voluntary or statutory sector.

For more information or to apply, please visit www.rethink.org/jobs
Alternatively, you can call 0300 5000 927 or email hrservices@rethink.org quoting reference SR/5372.

Closing date: 11th August 2011.

Rethink is passionate about creating a diverse workforce and positively encourages applications from under-represented communities.

INVESTORS
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Registered Charity Number 271028

BARHAM HOUSE NURSING HOME

Near Canterbury
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Full or Part-time
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MJD GROUP 01322 370700 ADRIAN

West Kent YMCA

Vehicle for Change: project ends 12/2013
Detached Youth Worker (17.5 hrs wk)

£10kpa+pension+healthcare

Deliver information, advice & support to young people
Closing date 8/8/11 - Interview 12/8/11 - Youth Panel 14/8/11

Flexible working: evenings, weekends, school holidays
Able to drive a minibus, Enhanced CRB

www.WestKentYMCA.org.uk
Jobs@WestKentYMCA.org.uk
Text 07941388852 Elizabeth 01892 542209

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Jacob White (Packaging) Limited

Continued Expansion Means
We need the following personnel:

Design Engineers

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Send CV to

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Dartford, DA1 5BY

Or e-mail: David@Jacobwhite.com



We need you!!

- Would you like to earn some extra cash and help raise money for Pilgrims Hospices?
- Flexible hours to suit you.
- We are looking for individuals to collect membership subscriptions from already established rounds in parts of East Kent.
- Canvassers also required in some areas to gain new Lottery members.
- Self-employed position.
- Standard CRB disclosure may be required for successful applicants.

Please call Shiralee on 01227 379741
for further details

INTERNAL SALES EXECUTIVES

Salary: £14,000 - £17,500 DOE + OTE

A real opportunity to excel and become part of an exhilarated sales force.

Realistic targets, buzzing atmosphere and a competitive yet rewarding environment are all part of this growing business.

We need sales guru's who have a telecoms, broadband, switches or mobile phone background as we need you to be able to hit the ground running almost immediately!

Duties include;

- Making outbound calls to gain new business and to service existing customers
- Discuss our clients full portfolio with potential clients and existing customers to include up-selling and cross-selling to ensure that all needs are discussed and met
- Relationship building – you are required to build rapport and trust so that they never forget you as a supplier
- Ensure targets are consistently met and sales pipelines are built and achieved
- Manage the sales cycle from contact to contract and beyond!

Candidates who apply need to be accurate, proficient and organised. You are required to be a focused sales person who is money motivated, able to negotiate and close the deal!

Candidates who have proven experience within a sales environment working for a telecommunications business will be interviewed immediately, if you do not have telecoms experience but you have sales experience we will discuss other positions with you.

Applicants are advised that you will need your own transport for this role.

Please apply today, without delay!

StaffPro is acting as a recruitment business in relation to this role.

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Please email your CV to leah@staff-pro.co.uk
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Gravesham
Borough Council



Customer and Theatre Services, Woodville Halls

Theatre and Conference Manager

Salary: Circa £33,000-£39,000 Ref: TCM/AT

Are you an experienced Venue Manager with vision, imagination and ambition?

If you are, then there's no better place to progress your career than at Gravesham Borough Council. We are able to offer you an exciting opportunity to flourish in a forward thinking and dynamic organisation.

As a valued member of the team, you will be reporting to the Service Manager (Customer and Theatre Services) and will be responsible for the management, personnel, financial, administration, promotion and delivery of the Woodville Halls and associated commercial facilities including the Kent Bar, Blake Gallery, Community Square and meeting / conference rooms.

The role requires a commercially minded Manager with similar experience in managing a theatre and conference facility, as well as a strong leader who can move the dedicated team forward during times of change and the challenges of operating within a commercial environment.

You will have previous experience within a commercial environment, planning, organising and delivering events and managing functions / conference facilities. You will also be responsible for scheduling the theatres quarterly event programmes with suitable, profitable, shows/events that meet customer expectations and changing demand.

If you think that you are up to the challenge and that this is the sort of role within which you can excel and drive the business forward, we look forward to hearing from you.

Closing Date: 5 August 2011, 12 noon

Preliminary interviews to be held on 12 August 2011

Interview and presentations to be held on 26 August 2011

For further information or an informal chat please contact:

Anita Tysoe, Service Manager (Customer and Theatre Services) on 01474 337360.

Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk/jobs

Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

The Council also operates a no smoking policy.



2006-2006
Promoting Racial Equality
2001-2002
Town Centre Regeneration

INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

Purchase Ledger Clerk Required

Experienced in all aspects of purchase ledger including invoice processing, reconciling statements, weekly payments, with experience on computerised accounting system.

Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Monday to Friday 9.00am until 5.30pm.

Please send CV's to Mr Ron Twyman, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6PP or by e-mail to ron@piperwindows.co.uk.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.



PA to Chief Executive - Aston Scott Group plc

Aston Scott Group plc is a Risk Management and Commercial Insurance Broking Group with offices throughout the UK.

Due to the promotion of his current Personal Assistant, the Chief Executive is looking for experienced and highly capable individual to assist him with his day to day duties.

The successful candidate will be loyal, professional and hardworking (8am - 5.30pm), with outstanding communication and secretarial skills. We are looking for a high calibre individual who is flexible, totally confidential, career minded and honest, has a sense of humour and is not afraid to work alone. Insurance experience would be an advantage but is not critical.

Please apply in writing enclosing a comprehensive CV for the attention of:

Claire Still

PA to Group Resources Director

Aston Scott Group plc

Malling House, West Malling, Kent, ME19 6QL

or to: clairesstill@astonscott.com

Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our home in

CHILHAM

BANK SUPPORT WORKERS

£6.53 per hour

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com

Alternatively e-mail joan.williams@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8841.



Faversham Residential Home Care Assistant Required

For Full Time To Work On Rota Basis

Subject To CRB Approval

For Further Information Please Contact

01795 532629

Between 10am-4pm

Shop Manager - Sevenoaks

£15,000

inc.outer London allowance

Demelza provides specialist care to children and young people with life limiting and life threatening conditions and support for their families at our hospices in Kent and South East London and through our Community team in East Sussex.

37.5 hours per week - to include Saturday's, seasonal Sunday opening may be required. Flexibility of working will be required.

Join us for an exciting opportunity to manage our new "boutique-style" shop in the heart of Sevenoaks.

Are you enthusiastic, innovative and able to prioritise in an ever-changing, dynamic environment?

You must have retail experience and be able to achieve income targets, recruit, train and manage a volunteer team.

Excellent customer service and communication skills are essential and experience in using an EPOS system and computer skills are desirable.

Are you up for the challenge in helping us make a difference?

For more information and application packs please visit our website www.demelza.org.uk or call our recruitment line on 01795 845295.

Closing Date 12th August 2011

Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer. Registered Charity No 1039651



EVENTS AND MARKETING MANAGER

**BROGDALE COLLECTIONS
FAVERSHAM, KENT**

HOME OF THE NATIONAL FRUIT COLLECTION

Brogdale Collections is a Registered Charity responsible for Public Access to the National Fruit Collections at Brogdale Farm, Faversham.

We currently welcome around 17000 visitors each year to a range of events and activities and are planning substantial developments to secure the sustainable future of the Living Collection at Brogdale Farm.

The successful applicant for this full time position will be energetic, have lots of enthusiasm, the ability to think on their feet and be prepared to be hands on.

Working on your own initiative you will need to be creative in seeking opportunities and should have experience in all aspects of running a small business. Some knowledge of charity work will be an advantage as well as an understanding of running a very small office including volunteers.

You should have strong communication, interpersonal and leadership skills and experience of event planning and management. This is definitely not a 9 to 5 role and weekend work will be required at certain times.

Terms and Conditions by negotiation.

Closing date for applications **10/08/11** by email to: sallyroger@brogdalecollections.co.uk

Full and Part time Sales Advisors Required at Tenterden Leisure Centre.

Tenterden Leisure Centre is currently under going a large refurbishment. Our 65 station gym has just been expanded to include a large resistance area; we have also had the floors and carpets replaced.

Tenterden Leisure Centre has a fantastic range of facilities include swimming pool with beach area and features, flume, waves, 4 badminton court sports hall, cafe, 2 aerobics studios, meeting rooms, crèche and squash court.

We are looking for an enthusiastic Sales Advisor to join our front of house team.

You must be:

- Enthusiastic and know how to close a sale
- Have good work ethics and administrative skills
- Hard working and target lead
- Be very competent with computerised sales systems
- Smart and well presented
- Able to work weekends, evenings and bank holidays
- Full Training is given

Please send your CV to Donna Kavanagh via email on Donna.Kavanagh@serca.com

If you require any further information then please contact Donna.Kavanagh@serca.com

Tenterden Leisure Centre, Recreation Ground Road, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6RA

Showroom Demonstrator

- Location: Aylesford Maidstone
- Job Type: Part Time, Saturday 9-5 Sunday 10-4, Bank Holidays.
- Categories: customer service, demonstrator
- Closing Date: 15/08/2011

Description

SLIDEROBES® goal is to make its customers happy by helping them transform their space. Our products are value-for-money, expertly designed and tailor-made for our customers' needs. We work together to deliver the friendliest, least hassle and most professional service in the market for our customers.

We are seeking a Part time Showroom Demonstrator to join our Maidstone showroom team.

Role Responsibilities

The role involves:

- Being the first point of contact for customers when they visit or call the showroom.
- Identifying customer needs and demonstrating how SLIDEROBES® storage solutions can meet these, aiming to secure qualified home-design appointments for the team of Designers.
- Working to the SLIDEROBES® standards to ensure that we deliver the friendliest, least hassle and most professional service in our market.

Essential Criteria

Personal profile:

- Previous experience in demonstrating or selling is desirable, but not essential. You will need to have a friendly, out-going personality and be genuinely interested in people.
- Naturally, good, all round communication skills are required.
- We have a strong team working ethos in our business so you will need to be an organised, focused team player, willing to go the extra mile to ensure the team achieves its goals.
- You will be confident in using basic IT (we will give you great training in how to use our systems).
- You will need to be flexible in your approach to work, willing and able to work weekends and Bank Holidays.

This is a fantastic opportunity to join a growing business, who will invest time and money in your personal development to ensure you are fully equipped to help make our customers happy.

Interested? Forward your CV for immediate consideration to: Maidstone@Sliderobes.com marked for the attention of Paul Devlin or send by post to Unit 3c Deacon Trading Estate, Forstal Road, Aylesford ME20 7SP

Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our teams at our homes in

BOBBING

www.achuk.com

SENIOR SUPPORT WORKERS

Salary from £15,250

SUPPORT WORKERS

Salary from £13,250

For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com

Alternatively e-mail loise.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.



Business Development Manager

Currently seeking dynamic and organised sales professionals to develop and secure new business whilst generating sales opportunities in line with Company strategy. Industry experience / knowledge of the uPVC window and building materials sector is highly advantageous. Competitive Salary, Company Car, Laptop and Mobile Phone will be provided.

Please forward your CV and covering letter to recruitment@eurocell.co.uk FAO Karen Freeman

Baker/Bakery Manager

Making bread from scratch and all associated tasks for small award winning organic bakery in Whitstable. This is a non-smoking environment. Immediate start. £6.80/£7.45 per hour depending on skills and experience. Access to own transport due to location and early starts. Hours from 4.30 am. 35-40 hours per week.

Various shifts including Sunday. Promotion to Bakery Manager is an option for the right candidate. Private health insurance.

Tel **01227 771 881**

Contact: Ingrid Eissfeldt or Mike Dale.

Please send your CV to

mail@artisanbread-abo.co.uk

Is this the job for you?

ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require the following staff to complement our team at our home in

STROOD

www.achuk.com

SUPPORT WORKERS

Salary from £13,250

NIGHT SUPPORT WORKERS

Salary from £13,250 (35 hours per week)

For an application pack please visit our website at

www.achuk.com Alternatively e-mail

joanna.shipp@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8878.





THE KENT AUTISTIC TRUST

a better life, a better future

As a charitable Trust, we provide high quality services across Kent for adults and Children with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and their families and are proud to offer individual, tailor made, person centred solutions of support of vocational and life skill services through our supported living, residential and day centres. The Trust encourages maximum independence, choice and use of community resources, within a supportive environment.

We are now recruiting to our supported living services in Medway and are looking for people who are enthusiastic, proactive, caring, flexible and keen to make a difference and enhance the work provided by the Trust.

Supported Living Manager

£25,306 - £29,519

As every day is different, you must be an effective problem solver and able to demonstrate your knowledge and experience to lead and support our team to promote and develop the service to the benefit of our clients. It is essential that you have experience and a good understanding of Autism as you will be 'hands on' 3-5 days a week.

Senior Support Worker

£14,674 - £16,405

If you have a keen desire to develop the awareness, independence, physical, intellectual, emotional and social development our clients then this is the position for you to expand your career in social care.

Night Support Worker

£13,505

This role requires providing care, medication and undertake light domestic duties during the night as required. Ideally you will have care experience and knowledge of Autism. Training will be provided.

For further information please contact Jacqui Ingram on **01634 405168**.

An application pack can be downloaded from **www.kentautistic.com**.

As an equal opportunity employer with Investor in People status, we welcome applications from a wide section of the community. Applicants offered employment are subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Criminal Records Bureau paid for by the Trust.

Closing date: 12th August 2011



THE KENT AUTISTIC TRUST

a better life, a better future

As a charitable Trust, we provide high quality services across Kent for adults and Children with Autism Spectrum Conditions (ASC) and their families and are proud to offer individual, tailor made, person centred solutions of support of vocational and life skill services through our supported living, residential and day centres. The Trust encourages maximum independence, choice and use of community resources, within a supportive environment.

We are now recruiting in **Ashford and Canterbury** and are looking for people who are enthusiastic, proactive, caring, flexible and keen to make a difference and enhance the work provided by the Trust.

Residential Senior Support Worker **£14,674 - £16,405**

If you have a keen desire to develop the awareness, independence, physical, intellectual, emotional and social development our clients then this is the position for you to expand your career in social care.

Individual Support Worker **£14,229 - £15,342**

Casual Care and Handy Workers **- flexible contracts**

Do you want to work in a supportive caring environment?

Would you like the chance to try a new career choice?

Would you like to support people with learning disabilities to have a great life?

Do you enjoy making a difference and rising to a positive challenge?

Do you have a positive outlook, a "can do" attitude and have plenty of energy?

Then we are looking for you to join our specialist team!

The Role: **Individual Support Worker Salary £14,229pa**

- if you do not have any experience working with people with Learning Disabilities

£15,324pa if you have more than one year's experience and hold a qualification

It is a requirement that the applicant is able to drive.

If this sounds like your ideal job then please call our Head Office on

(01634) 405168

Speak to Jacqui for an application pack.

Visit our website **www.kentautistic.com** where you can also apply online.

As an equal opportunity employer with Investor in People status, we welcome applications from a wide section of the community. Applicants offered employment are subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Criminal Records Bureau paid for by the Trust.

Closing date: 12th August 2011



Class 1 Drivers Urgently Required

- Regular on-going local work
- Various shifts
- Pay rates £10-£17 per hour

Contact Go Recruit on **01622 690555** or **07921 913034** for an interview and assessment

Faversham Residential Home
Care Assistant Require
A Domestic Assistant

To Work The Hours 9am-2pm
 Subject To CRB Approval

For Further Information Please Contact
01795 532629 Between 10am-4pm

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Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Chemistry Technician

Ref: P0070

18.5 hours per week
 Salary: £17,050 - £21,339 pro rata (dependent on qualifications and experience)

We are looking to recruit a highly experienced individual to support the technical provision within the Science Department from GCSE level to HND in Applied Chemistry. The successful candidate will be supporting staff and students throughout the Department and will hold a qualification in Chemistry at degree level or equivalent.

Senior Administrator

Ref: P0675

Salary: £18,759 - £22,753 per annum
 (dependent on qualifications and experience)

We are looking for an experienced administrator to play a key role in supporting the Head of Service in the monitoring of college policy, strategy and development of Student Support Department. The successful candidate will have a clear focus on the development of the Service level Agreements, monitoring, tracking of the WorkSkills qualification and development of the Management Information process with a responsibility for quality assurance. They will work closely with members of staff throughout the College, ensuring the quality and delivery of entitlement and related activities throughout the department and have a responsibility for supervising the apprentice and junior administrator, providing opportunities for them to develop within their roles and completion of the appraisal process.

Recruitment Placement Co-ordinator

Ref: P0320

Salary: £18,759 - £22,753 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience)

The College is seeking an outstanding individual to oversee and co-ordinate the operation of the Job Shop services. You will establish and develop business links with external employers to provide suitable employment opportunities for our students. Ideally, the successful candidate will hold CPP/CRP qualifications or equivalent.

Human Resources Assistant

Ref: P0578

Salary: £15,891 - £19,464 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience)

We are looking for a highly organised individual to contribute to the smooth running of the HR services based at the Royal School of Military Engineering. You will assist the HR Advisor and the Head of HR with administrative responsibilities and act as first point of contact for staff. You will ensure the day to day tasks are completed efficiently, working closely with Managers, assisting the payroll team and dealing with general HR queries for staff on all levels.

Closing date: 12 noon, Wednesday 3 August 2011.

For an informal discussion regarding any of these roles, please contact the HR Department on 01634 383511.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, vulnerable adults and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer




THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

LECTURER IN BIOLOGY
LECTURER IN SPORT

18.5 hours per week, all year
Salary: £12,795 - £15,103

To raise aspirations, develop skills and deliver quality across a range of courses in the Programme Area.

Closing date: 10th August 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Job reference: CRE001
Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination



Career opportunities at MidKent College

Earn while you learn!

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding apprentices in the following areas:

Business Administration

Youth Workers

Hair Technician

Electronic Engineering Technician

Job Shop Assistants (Recruitment)

We are looking for enthusiastic individuals who will benefit from gaining their first NVQ Qualification whilst working in a stimulating environment. Successful candidates will work towards the apprenticeship framework including a relevant NVQ Level within their chosen subject area.

Training allowance: £6,314 per annum plus reward bonus upon successful completion of the NVQ Qualification.

Advert closing date: 12 noon Thursday 18 August 2011

Interviews scheduled to begin week commencing 29 August 2011

Anticipated start date of employment: 12 September 2011

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk.

For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine).

In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

LECTURER IN EARLY YEARS**28 hours per week, all year****Salary: £19,365 - £22,858**

To teach a range of subjects to a high quality on Early Years programmes across the range of levels

**PROGRAMME LEADER IN EARLY YEARS
FIXED TERM UNTIL 30 JUNE 2012 TO COVER
MATERNITY LEAVE**

37 HOURS PER WEEK, ALL YEAR**SALARY: £29,413 - £34,817**

To deliver high quality teaching and learning, lead the effective co-ordination and development of programmes and take a lead role in the planning and delivery of specified programmes within the Programme Area.

Closing date: 10 August 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Job reference: EYC001

**Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination**



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

**SKILLS PRACTITIONER
- MOTOR VEHICLE**

To provide Learning/Technical support to staff and students and undertake assessment and quality assurance duties as required by the College and awarding bodies

SALARY SCALE:**£8,567 - £10,123 FOR 18.5 HOURS PER WEEK, ALL YEAR**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line an (01843) 605052

**Closing date for the above posts:
Wednesday 10th August 2011**

**Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination**



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

COMMUNITY GUIDANCE ADVISORS X 2**FIXED TERM UNTIL 31ST MARCH 2012**

To operate a client-centred vocational guidance programme providing a comprehensive information, advice and guidance service on employment, training, education and self-employment opportunities, for potential and existing students

FULL TIME POST:

**£15,000 WITH TARGET ACHIEVEMENT RISING TO £21,900
FOR 37 HOURS PER WEEK, ALL YEAR**

PART TIME POST:

**£7,500 WITH TARGET ACHIEVEMENT RISING TO £10,950
FOR 18.5 HOURS PER WEEK, ALL YEAR**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line an (01843) 605052

Closing date for the above posts: Wednesday 10th August 2011

**Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination**



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated staff, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**15 hours per week, all year****Salary: £10,374 - £12,245**

To provide expertise, guidance and support to the College on the planning, management and implementation of PR activities. To proactively promote Thanet College raising its profile locally, regionally and nationally. To be responsible for all communication with the media and to promote very high standards in a positive and supportive culture that aspires to be outstanding.

Closing date: 12th August 2011

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Job reference: PRO001

**Promoting Equality
Preventing Discrimination**



PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

WELLNESS COACHES
REQUIRED
We are a Health & Nutrition company looking for serious people who want to earn £500-£1000+ per month full/part-time working from home. Full training and support available.
01622 671716

Teachers Needed
Primary, Secondary and SEN.
Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.
Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:
✓ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
✓ Excellent rates of pay – paid weekly
✓ Free in-service training and CPD assessment
✓ Free use of resource centre
✓ An out-of-hours service
Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.
To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on: **0800 731 6871** or email **enquiry.ers@capita.co.uk**
CAPITA
EDUCATION RESOURCING
(Agy)
Committed to equal opportunities

To advertise in this section

01303 817150
PLANNING

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/11/0322/N - NEWNHAM COURT SHOPPING VILLAGE, BEARSTED ROAD, WEAVERING, KENT - Erection of storage building with offices, parking and access as shown on drawing nos. **DHA/7524/01**, **DHA/7524/02** and **DHA/7524/03** received on 3rd March 2011. **Reason: 1, 9**
MA/11/1003/N - BREWERS HOUSE, ASHFORD ROAD, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4NN - Installation of a larger replacement window to first floor. **Reason: 1**
MA/11/1078/S - 13, TONBRIDGE ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 8HG - Planning application for the erection of a three storey medical centre and 10 dwellings together with associated landscaping and access. **Reason: 6**
MA/11/1090/S - 10, BUCKLAND ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME16 OSL - Change of use of land to a hand car wash. **Reason: 1**
MA/11/1093/S - 1-3, FORGE LANE, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9QG - An application for listed building consent for internal works being the formation of a new opening between two rooms on the first floor. **Reason: 3**
MA/11/1096/N - 52, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1ED - Application for listed building consent for internal alterations to facilitate change of use of ground floor and cellar to mixed A1 (Art Gallery) and A3 (Cafe) use. **Reason: 3**
MA/11/1097/N - 52, UNION STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1ED - Change of use of ground floor and cellar to mixed A1 (Art Gallery) and A3 (Cafe) use. **Reason: 1, 2**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
6 - Application is Major Development.
9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **14th August 2011**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated: 31st July 2011**

PLANNING


Planning applications

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/11/01049/LB: Canterbury Heritage Museum, 20/21a Stour Street, Canterbury, CT1 2NR Internal alterations. **Applicant:** Canterbury City Council
Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/11/01052/FUL: First-Floor Flat, 8 Oakdale Road, Herne Bay, CT6 6AH Replacement windows to front of flat. **Applicant:** Mr W Toogood
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01053/FUL: Knaves Ash Cottage, Hoath Road, Hoath, CT3 4JR Single-storey extension to rear of dwelling. **Applicant:** Mr Williams
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01056/FUL: 29 Beverley Road, Canterbury, CT2 7EN First-floor extension to rear of dwelling. **Applicant:** Mr Ness
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01128/FUL: Freshfields, Westcourt Lane, Woolage Green, Womenswold, CT4 6SE Demolition of garage/workshop and erection of a detached bungalow. **Applicant:** Mr Richard Anderson
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01142/LB: 60-61 Ivy Lane, Canterbury, CT1 1TU Alterations and restoration of front and rear elevations and internal alterations. **Applicant:** Mr Domingo
Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/11/01148/FUL: Rose Cottage, 4 Hollow Street, Chislet, CT3 4DS First-floor extension to side of dwelling. **Applicant:** Mrs Kyte
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01159/FUL: 12 Victoria Park, Herne Bay, CT6 5BJ Replacement upvc windows, doors and fascia boards. **Applicant:** Mr Butler
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01172/FUL: 18 Pound Lane, Canterbury First-floor extension, external alterations and erection of railings. **Applicant:** R Amitrano
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01174/LB: Rose Cottage, 4 Hollow Street, Chislet, CT3 4DS First-floor extension to side of dwelling. **Applicant:** Mrs Kyte
Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/11/01186/FUL: Jonette, Patribourne Road, Bridge, CT4 5BL Replacement front wall and erection of shed in rear garden. **Applicant:** Mr M Wilmshurst
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01216/FUL: Peggoty Cottage, Chapel Lane, Chislet, CT3 4EP Two-storey side and rear extension, conservatory to rear and replacement of existing garage with carport with home office above. **Applicant:** Mr K Lorenzen
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01221/FUL: Pilgrims Mede, Summer Hill, Harbledown, CT2 8NJ Erection of a pair of semi-detached dwellings. **Applicant:** William King Homes Ltd
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01222/FUL: 29-31 Park Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5ST Conversion of existing building to five flats with two-storey rear extension and dormer windows to front and rear. **Applicant:** Mr Justin Simmonds
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01232/LB: 24 Orchard Street, Canterbury, CT2 8AP Internal alterations. **Applicant:** Mrs Jeary
Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/11/01233/FUL: 34 Whitstable Road, Blean, CT2 9EB Conservatory to front of dwelling. **Applicant:** Dr Staehler
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01244/FUL: 53 Palace Street, Canterbury, CT1 2DY Single-storey rear extension and re-positioning of existing air conditioning unit. **Applicant:** Mr Thyssen
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/11/01245/LB: 53 Palace Street, Canterbury, CT1 2DY Single-storey rear extension and re-positioning of existing air conditioning unit. **Applicant:** Mr Thyssen
Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/11/01252/FUL: Stonerocks Farm, Hawe Lane, Sturry, CT2 0LP Erection of building for swimming pool enclosure (Revised scheme). **Applicant:** Mr Mark Vinter
Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA/11/01254/FUL: Land west of The Limes, London Road, Harbledown, CT2 9AU Change of use of land to use as residential caravan site for two gypsy families, each with two caravans and an amenity block including the laying of hardstanding. **Applicant:** Mr T Lee
Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to development.control@canterbury.gov.uk to arrive on or before **Monday 22 August 2011**.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 29 July 2011


ARCHANT

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

11/02039/HOUSE Court Lodge Nevill Park, Broadwater
Single storey orangery extension and pitched roof over existing garage (CA)
11/01989/HOUSE Linnets The Hill, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
Two new dormer windows to front elevation and internal alterations (CA) (LB)
11/02132/LBC Hartridge Manor Oast Paley Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst
Listed Building Consent: Change floor level between proposed hall and sitting room of barn by the introduction of a single step down (LB)
11/02065/HOUSE 36 Court Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
Rear single storey garden room (CA)
11/02122/LBC 79 Mount Ephraim Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
Listed Building Consent: Replace kitchen floor and replace section of external drainage (LB)
11/02086/LBC Frittenden C Of E Primary School The Street, Frittenden
Variation of Condition 5 of Listed Building Consent TW/10/03329: Relating to brick bond (LB)
11/02068/FUL Ash Oast School House Lane, Horsmonden
Secondary access drive together with associated landscaping for Mr & Mrs J Webley (PROW) (LB)
11/02118/FUL Castlemaine Maidstone Road, Horsmonden
Extension of Time: Works to stable block to include dismantling, reconstruction and restoration to provide single dwelling. Double garage (TW/08/02223/FUL refers) (LB)
11/02092/HOUSE 10 Brewer Street Lamberhurst, Lamberhurst
Installation of PV solar panels on roof to front elevation (CA)
11/02105/HOUSE 30 Warwick Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
Demolition of part of front boundary wall to create off street parking space and associated vehicular crossover. Remodelling and landscaping works to front garden, involving re-siting of steps, reduction of rear retaining walls and creation of new retaining walls and planting beds (CA)
11/02083/FUL 28 Lansdowne Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park
Extension of existing parking arrangements (CA)
11/02050/FUL Kent College For Girls Old Church Road, Pembury
Resurfacing of existing car park (LB)
11/02082/FUL Recreation Ground Lower Green Road, Pembury
Single storey office and meeting facility with car parking for Mrs Barbara Russell (PROW)
11/02081/LBC Flat 3 Bentham Hill House, Southborough North
Listed Building Consent - Removal of internal timber partition wall. Building of two small masonry pillars at either end of removed wall to transfer the load onto the load bearing strata and rest steel beam across the two pillars (LB)
(DEVLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting A Conservation Area (LB) Affecting A Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.
You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.
You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet.
We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.
Jim Kehoe Head of Planning Services Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
Dated: 30 July 2011

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13
KCC/SH/0330/2011 – Proposed development at Highview School, Moat Farm Road, Folkestone, Kent, CT19 5DJ.

Kent County Council Property Group is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for the provision of a new modular classroom. The proposed development affects a public right of way.

You may view this application at Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY.

KCC/TH/0257/2011 – Proposed development at King Ethelbert School, Canterbury Road, Birchington, Kent, CT19 9BL.

Ursuline College is applying to Kent County Council Planning Applications Group for planning permission for a new artificial sports pitch and 4 court Multi Use Games Area, with floodlighting, and grass cycle circuit and cycle challenges, on existing sports field adjacent to Ursuline College, for use by Ursuline College. The development site adjoins/affects a public right of way.

You may view this application at Thanet District Council, Council Offices, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1XZ.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 1999
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 21 OF DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

I give notice that on 19 July 2011, Kent County Council granted planning permission for Site A - construction of materials recycling facility to replace existing inert materials processing facility on southern part of Site A, and Site B - transfer and construction of expanded inert materials processing facility including soil washing plant and construction of 2 no. buildings to house an anaerobic digester plant to receive and process green and food wastes with maturation building and staff facilities/office building, alteration to access road and fencing at Site A - Richborough Hall & Site B - Land north of Stevens & Carloti, Ramsgate Road, Richborough, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 (Ref: DO/10/954).

You may view free of charge copies of the application, the environmental statement, the committee report and the planning permission at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PJ or at the offices of the Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 31 July 2011



Do not gamble on people seeing your public notices, call the Kent Public Notice team on

01303 817044

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

**WESTWOOD ROAD, KINGSTON
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of duct installation works in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Westwood Road, Kingston, on or after 1 August 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Westwood Cottage.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Pett Bottom Road and Turk's Hill.

The alternative route is via Pett Bottom Road, Woodgate and Pheasants Hall Road.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

**BRANCH STREET, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of the use of a mobile crane to complete works on the former Nat West Bank building, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Branch Street, Dover, on or after 1 August 2011 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Bridge Street and Peter Street.

There is no alternative route. The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Peter Street will be suspended to allow limited access.

**EAST CLIFF, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of duct installation works in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on East Cliff, Dover, on or after 5 August 2011 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between numbers 48 & 54.

There is no alternative route.

There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order in respect of East Cliff to allow access up to the point of closure.

**HAROLD PASSAGE, DOVER
(RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of footway surfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting pedestrians on Harold Passage, Dover, on or after 15 August 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

This applies to the section from Maison Dieu Road to the steps at Harold Street.

The alternative route is via Maison Dieu Road, Taswell Street and Harold Street.

**RICHBOROUGH ROAD LEVEL CROSSING,
RICHBOROUGH
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of maintenance and replacement works on the level crossing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic at Richborough Road Level Crossing, Richborough.

It is planned that the road will be closed from 0.30 am on Sunday 7 August 2011 until 4.00 am on 8 August 2011.

The alternative route is via A256 Sandwich By-pass, A257 Sandwich Road, Cooper Street Drove and Richborough Road.

**THE RISE, KINGSDOWN
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Rise, Kingsdown, on or after 15 August 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Chalk Hill Road and Upper Street.

The alternative route is via Chalk Hill Road and Upper Street.

**OLD PARK ROAD, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Old Park Road, Dover, on or after 20 August 2011 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative routes are

Northbound via Crabble Hill, Whitfield Avenue and Brookfield Avenue

Southbound via Brookfield Avenue, Pioneer Road and Crabble Hill

**VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Dover, on or after 17 August 2011, as shown below.

ST DAVID'S AVENUE, AYLCLIFFE - between 2 St George's Crescent and the junction with St Giles Road

From 17 August 2011 for up to 2 days

The alternative route is via St George's Crescent and St David's Avenue

SOUTH MILITARY ROAD, DOVER - northbound only - from the A20 Western Heights Roundabout to the junction with Old Folkestone Road

From 17 August 2011 for 1 day

The alternative route is via A20 Archcliffe Road, Limekiln Street, Snargate Street, York Street, Durham Hill, North Military Road, Centre Road and South Military Road

BUNKERS HILL, DOVER - between the junctions with Bunkers Hill Road and Oswald Road

From 22 August for up to 3 days

The alternative route is via Hillside Road, Crabble Ave, Crabble Road and Crabble Hill

**HIGHWAYS -
In the Districts of Dover & Thanet**

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

**(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET) (SPEED LIMITS)
ORDER 2011**

**(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET)
(24 HOUR CLEARWAY ORDER) 2011
(TOUCAN CROSSING)**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers proposes to make an Order under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and 2(2), Sections 81 to 84 of and part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the effect of which will introduce "No Stopping - At Any Time" and speed limits to be enforced on lengths of the newly constructed sections of the A299 and A256 (known as the East Kent Access Road Phase 2) within Thanet and Dover, and;

under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and all other enabling powers, intends to install Toucan Crossings which are located on the A256 Ramsgate Road, approximately 60 metres south west of the midpoint of its junction with "Ebbsfleet roundabout" to maintain access for pedestrians and cyclists along the shared routes.

Phase 1 of East Kent Access was constructed and opened several years ago. Phase 2 includes the construction of the A299 Hengist Way, from "Minster roundabout" eastwards, to "Cliffsend roundabout" southwards, to "Sevenscore roundabout" and eastwards to "Lord of the Manor junction"; and the A256 Richborough Way is from "Sevenscore

roundabout" southwards, to "Richborough roundabout".

Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd has been commissioned to work in partnership with the Kent County Council to progress the legal procedures necessary to implement the proposed measures.

A copy of the scheme proposal, an explanatory statement and a plan showing the extents of the scheme can be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, Dover District Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park Whitfield, Dover CT16 3PJ, Thanet District Council Offices, PO Box 9, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1XZ, and affected Parish and Town Councils which are: Acol PC, Birchington PC, Cliffsend PC, Chestfield PC, Herne & Broomfield PC, Manston PC, Minster-in-sea PC, Monkton PC, Ramsgate TC, Sandwich TC and St Nicholas at Wade PC.

Anyone wishing to support these proposals, or object to them, should write to Diane Bourne, Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd, Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6GB, quoting the name of the Order and reference No ""B1425100" and stating their reasons, by not later than Monday 22nd August 2011.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

**MILTON HALL ROAD, GRAVESEND
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Milton Hall Road, Gravesend between Pine Avenue and number 25 Milton Hall Road.

The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Pine Avenue, Old Road East and Milton Avenue.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage improvement works.

**PARK AVENUE, NORTHFLEET
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Park Avenue, Northfleet outside the Dover Road Community Primary School.

The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 2nd August 2011 and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Park Avenue, Vale Road, Perry Street and Victoria Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate delivery of a modular double classroom to Dover Road Community Primary School.

**PRIESTWOOD ROAD, MEOPHAM
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Priestwood Road, Meopham outside property "Famescot".

The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 10th August and last 4 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Horns Oak Road and David Street.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate UK Power Network works.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

**CARING LANE, THURNHAM
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Caring Lane outside number 23 on or after Monday 15th August 2011 for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Caring Road, Otham Lane, A20 Ashford Road.

Stevens Construction Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new manhole to connect to the sewer. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Barry Stevens on 01892 730634.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

**CASTLE HILL, HARTLEY
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Castle Hill, Hartley between Steep Hill and Ash Road.

The Order will become effective on 1st August 2011. It will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months. The restriction will be effective when required and when the appropriate signage is in place. The works are planned to last for 5 days.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Ash Road, Hartley Road, Main Road, Fawkham Road and Castle Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate kerbing to prevent flooding.

**NORTH ASH ROAD (REDHILL ROAD), ASH CUM RIDLEY
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on North Ash Road (Redhill Road), Ash Cum Ridley.

The Order will become effective on 15th August 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Hartley Bottom Road, Pease Hill, The Street and Ash Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway patching.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

**CHURCH APPROACH & CHURCH LANE, NEW ROMNEY
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of water mains renewal works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Approach & Church Lane, New Romney, on or after 1 August 2011 for up to 5 weeks, as shown below.

The roads will be closed in rolling sections from High Street to the junction with Wiles Avenue.

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

CHURCH APPROACH will be closed from 1 August 2011 for 1 week

The alternative route is west on High Street, and Church Road

CHURCH LANE will be closed in phases from the junction with Church Road to the junction with Wiles Avenue

From 8 August for approximately 4 weeks.

The alternative route is via Church Road, The Churchlands, Marsh Crescent and Wiles Avenue.

The dates of the phases are approximate guidelines, and may vary subject to weather and ground conditions.

SCHOOL ROAD, ACRISE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains renewal works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on School Road, Acrise, on or after 16 August 2011 for up to 7 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Coach Road and Pay Street.

The alternative route is via Coach Road and Pay Street.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Swale

SELLING ROAD, SELLING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Selling Road, Selling, on or after 15 August 2011 for up to 9 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Selling Road and Stonestile Lane / Rhodde Common Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between the A28 and Selling.

The alternative route is via Selling Road, Selling Street, Winding Hill, Newhouse Lane, A251 Ashford Road, A252 Canterbury Road, New Cut Road and Selling Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

CHURCH ROAD, OFFHAM (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Road, Offham on or after Tuesday 16th August 2011 when required for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via A20 London Road, Seven Mile Lane, Teston Road.

UK Power Networks and BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to provide a new service and renew a telegraph pole. Should you require any further information about these

works, the contact for UKPN is Scott Davis on 01732 783986 and for BT is Sam Ransley on 01795 420084.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

DEAKIN LEAS, TONBRIDGE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Deakin Leas between Baltic Road and Pembury Road on or after Monday 15th August 2011 when required for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Baltic Road, The Drive, Pembury Road.

Particon CE Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for traffic calming. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Ivan Bannister on 01233 612240.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

GLASSEMBURY ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Glassembury Road from outside Bull Farm Oast for 64m north on or after Monday 15th August 2011 for a period of up to 2 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Turnden Lane and A229 Hartley Road.

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused, which is necessary for reinstatement of the road surface, deep planing and machine laying of the road. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Roshith Ahmed on 01634 276375.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE HEATH, EAST MALLING (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on The Heath outside number 60 on or after Monday 15th August 2011 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Pikey Lane, Broadwater Road, Clare Lane, Mill Street, High Street, Chapel Street, Wateringbury Road.

UK Power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Scott Davis on 01732 783986.

Katherine Kerswell
Group Managing Director
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

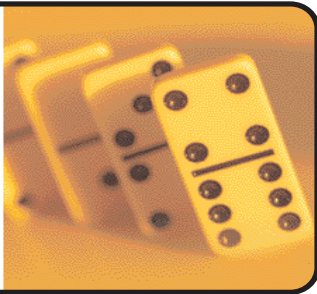
Dated 30th July 2011

For further information, please contact
Kent Highway Services,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



Do not gamble on people
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call the Kent Public Notice
team on

01303 817044



PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - Village Greens - Borough of Ashford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMONS ACT 2006 - SECTION 19(2)

NOTICE OF PROPOSAL FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE REGISTER OF VILLAGE GREEN

The Commons Registration Authority, Kent County Council, is currently considering a proposal under section 19(2)(a) of the Commons Act 2006 and in accordance with the Commons Registration (England) Regulations 2008. The reason for the proposal is to correct an error made by the Commons Registration Authority in making an entry in the Register of Village Greens for unit number VG235 in the parish of Wittersham.

The documents relating to the proposal (including a plan) may be inspected at the offices of Kent County Council at the address below. Please contact the Commons Registration Team on 01622 221511 to make an appointment prior to visiting to ensure that a member of the team is available to assist you.

Any person wishing to make representations regarding the application should send a written statement of the facts upon which the representation is based to the Commons Registration Team at Kent County Council, either by post at the address below or by email to commons.villagegreens@kent.gov.uk, so as to arrive no later than Monday 12th September 2011. Please quote reference VG235.

Representations must include the name and postal address of the person making them and the nature of their interest (if any) in the land affected by the application. They must also be signed by the person making them and state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that any representations that are to be taken into account by the Registration Authority in reaching a decision on the application cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain during the processing of the application. Copies of any objections or representations received will be forwarded to the applicant for comment and may be disclosed to other interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

PROW - Districts of Dover and Shepway

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146 IN THE PARISHES OF DENTON WITH WOOTTON AND ELHAM (PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Byway HE30 / ER146 from Reece Lane to Snode Hill from 15th August 2011.

Pedestrian access will be available from Snode Hill to Public Footpath ER130 at Gatteridge Farm

The route will be closed for 6 months or until the said works are complete.

The route will be closed for the construction of a new water pumping station and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact:
Edward Denne

Description of the proposal

The effect of the proposal proposal is:

to delete from the Register an area of approximately 1.5 acres (0.61 hectares) of registered Village Green from unit number VG235 at Wittersham, situated adjacent to property number 12 Woodland View and to the north and west of the pond; and

to add to the Register an area of approximately 1.4 acres abutting Jubilee Field and situated to the south of the pond.

PROW - District of Dover

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH ER64 IN THE PARISH OF WHITFIELD (PUBLIC FOOTPATH ER64) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 Section 14(1), As Amended By The Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath ER64 between Sandwich Road and The Drove from the 15th August 2011.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months.

The path will be closed because of planned works on the footpath and the likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact:
Denise Roffey

PROW - Districts of Dover and Shepway

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146 IN THE PARISHES OF DENTON WITH WOOTTON AND ELHAM (PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

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The route will be closed for 6 months or until the said works are complete.

The route will be closed for the construction of a new water pumping station and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact:
Edward Denne

For detailed enquiries please contact:
Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XX

Dated: 31st July, 2011

The above notice(s) may be provided in other formats

For further information, please contact
Kent Countryside Access Service,
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Goodnestone Park Gardens, Canterbury

Applicant: Mr Francis Plumtree

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below:

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House,
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

Notice is hereby given that Wendy Ballanger of 1-2 Parrock Street, Gravesend DA12 1EW has applied to Gravesham Borough Council for the VARIATION EXTENSION OF OPENING HOURS THURS / FRI/ SAT: Noon - 04:00am. Extension of hours for Live Music, Recorded Music Late night refreshments & sale of alcohol. For the premises Whispers Situated at 1-2 Parrock Street, Gravesend DA12 1EW

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at <http://www.gravesham.gov.uk/licensing> or at Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1U tel: 01474 337334 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 10/08/2011 The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. In the case of an application for a provisional statement, please note that representations will be restricted once a statement has been issued.





You'll be
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the summer
fun on offer

SEE PAGE 43



ESCAPE THE CARS

Enjoy some traffic-free
cycling when you go
and explore this island

SEE PAGE 40

Your Weekend



Robin of the hood

Historic hero takes on a
new gangster persona

See page 35

PLUS: Live animal exports back on political agenda - **talking point p36** Novel brings a liar, cheat and scoundrel to the streets of county - **kent remembered p37** Subaru continues to build on its already strong motoring legacy - **driving p53**

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Leeds Castle, Kent

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On both days TV celebrity **Claire Sweeney** will be hosting two fabulous catwalk shows.

The shows are co-ordinated and professionally choreographed creating the 'wow factor'.

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For EXHIBITOR INFORMATION contact Liz Hare on 01303 817172 or email liz.hare@archant.co.uk

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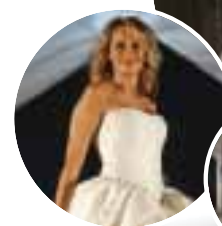
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Claire Sweeney

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THE INTERVIEW

Angus McDonald

AUTHOR Angus McDonald has just had his third novel published and it features a new take on the life of Robin Hood.

McDonald, from Tonbridge, who is a former war correspondent, has received rave reviews for King's Man which tells of the adventures of the outlaw of Sherwood Forest on his return from accompanying King Richard the Lionheart – imprisoned in Austria during the period in which the novel is set – on the Third Crusade.

This Robin and his fellow outlaws are far-removed from the usual 'merry men' of the tales and bards which date back centuries.

"I wanted to write about medieval times," said McDonald, "And I wanted a hero that was recognisable. Robin Hood kept leaping out at me and he forced his way into my first book."

"Once he was there I thought 'what can I do?' I wanted an adult character so I asked myself 'how would a medieval outlaw behave?'"

"I felt he would have had to be pretty tough and ruthless and a light-bulb moment came when I was watching Marlon Brando as Don Corleone in The Godfather. I thought he was behaving very much like a feudal baron as he gave out 'justice'. So, I thought a feudal baron could behave very much like a gangster."

The character of Robin Hood has appeared in film on numerous occasions, most recently on the big screen in the form of Russell Crowe in a grittier than usual portrayal. Kevin Costner has played the role, and so has Sean Connery, playing an older outlaw opposite Audrey Hepburn's Maid Marion.

Douglas Fairbanks cut a black and white dash in tights and a feathered cap, while on TV Jonas Armstrong played a 21st century politically correct robber-of-the-rich, and Michael Praed a mystical one in the 1980s.

Mr McDonald's favourite portrayal comes from an all-time Hollywood great.

"For me it has to be Errol Flynn," he said.

"Maybe it's because I remember watching him on television on wet Sunday afternoons when I was young. But I thought Kevin Costner was pretty good and Russell Crowe.

"I understand Crowe's version had all sorts of wrangles over the script. There was an idea he could play both Robin and the Sheriff of Nottingham, also that their traditional roles would be reversed. But in the end I think the scriptwriters lost their nerves."

The rich lives of the real-life historical character of the Middle Ages were another source of inspiration for the books.

Mr McDonald said: "Nobody has managed to



BOYS IN THE HOOD: Many actors have played the role of Robin down the years including Kevin Costner, Douglas Fairbanks and most recently Russell Crowe, but McDonald's (third from left) all-time favourite is Errol Flynn (pictured below)

Brando inspiration for writer's ruthless Robin

Angus McDonald explains to **Nick Ames** how a desire to write about medieval times ended with Britain's most famous outlaw in his books

6699

I wanted a hero who was recognisable – Robin Hood kept leaping out at me and forced his way into the book



find a real Robin Hood. But most scholars seem to agree the period of the early 13th century is the time to look at.

"But I decided to take the story back 20 or so years. My first book is set in 1188, and I want to take the series through to the Magna Carta in 1215. In that incredible period there is Henry II at the very end of his reign. He had established an empire from the Pennines to the Pyrenees."

Mr McDonald, the son of a diplomat, lived in many parts of the world, but called a house in Chiddingstone Causeway home – hence his current address in Tonbridge.

After university he worked as a waiter in a celebrity hang-out café in New York, where he had to pretend to be French to impress the regular customers who included Madonna, Robert De Niro and Dustin Hoffman.

Travelling and writing for newspapers and

magazines followed before he decided to go freelance after the 9-11 attacks on New York and Washington.

"I wanted to cover a warzone and my paper I was working for wouldn't send me," he said.

"So took myself off to Islamabad, Pakistan," he said. "I then went into Afghanistan. I wasn't embedded (officially working alongside Coalition forces). It was just me and a couple of gunmen who were supposed to protect me. I was at Tora Bora (a cave complex stormed by US Special Forces as it was thought to be the hiding place of Osama Bin Laden) and I was mortared, shot at, and saw a lot of dead bodies."

"When I came home my nerves were all over the place. So I took a quiet job and started working on my novels. Writing and travelling to the places where my books are set – which I call optical research – is a dream come true."



This man was in the news every day for 15 years...

...he is a widower and he lives alone. For over fifteen years Bill ran his own newspaper and magazine stand but having retired, struggled to do his shopping and have week day to severe arthritis and mobility problems. Help was a luxury that he simply could not afford, his only income being the state pension and a small amount of pension credit. Following a referral to NewstrAid, Bill was provided with advice which helped him secure additional income and a full rebate on his council tax.

NewstrAid who funded a mobility scooter which allows him to gain access to local shops and amenities. A great many people are employed in the news distribution trade - some just like Bill are suffering through illness and others may have just fallen on hard times.

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TALKING POINT

Animal exports

THERE have been few issues in recent years which act as an instant trigger for angry protesters and emotive language.

Animal exports have certainly been one. Few will be able to forget the angry scenes outside Dover several years ago when the trade used the port.

And now the issue is a political hot potato once more after exports began at Ramsgate.

Once again, farmers have pointed out the benefits to being able to conduct the trade – citing financial benefits and the strict legislation which must now be met to ensure the safety of the animals involved.

Those opposed are vocal in their condemnation.

Peter Stevenson, chief policy advisor at Compassion in World Farming, said: “Young calves, perhaps two or three weeks old who have already suffered the distress of being removed from their mother are being transported huge distances involving two ferry crossings and three road journeys.

“Young calves are not equipped to cope with the demands of lengthy journeys and many suffer greatly from stress, exhaustion, thirst, hunger and disease.

“We urge Britain’s sheep farmers not to send their animals for slaughter abroad.”

This time, both protesters and concerned councillors are looking along the south coast to Portsmouth: a port which has recently, and legally, stopped the trade to prevent angry scenes which can impact both on the port’s reputation and other business.

The movement of calves and sheep to the continent began in Ramsgate in May, following damage to the pontoon in Dover.

National and European legislation, which has established Ramsgate as an open port – meaning it must allow any vessel involved in a legal trade to dock if possible – allows the live exports to take place.

Were Thanet District Council, which both owns and runs the port, to issue a ban, it runs the risk of extensive legal action and possible compensation. With council budgets tight, no-one can take the risk of a messy trawl through the courts.

Commercial services manager at Thanet District Council (TDC), Mark Seed, said: “We are exceptionally unhappy about this situation and the potential impact such trade could have on the port, but there is no legal basis on which we can refuse the use of the port for this purpose.

“To take legal action against live animal exports would involve a significant cost to the taxpayer and, as has been shown in previous cases, sadly it is unlikely to prevent it.”

Michèle Danan, head of public affairs at Compassion in World Farming (CIWF), an organisation attempting to ban the trade nationally, said: “This is a cruel and archaic trade being enforced using Victorian legislation.

“The British people don’t want it and the people of Ramsgate don’t want it.”

A different approach will be needed – and Portsmouth is proving something of an inspiration.

The port successfully impounded a ship carrying live exports after increasing the fees to £5,000 per lorry.

Michael Lawther, strategic director for Portsmouth City Council, said: “The ferry company did not pay berthing duty fees during the period of October – November 2009.

“As a result one of their vessels was seized until the berthing fees were paid.

“Celtic Ferries paid to have the vessel released and launched a claim against the council for lost revenue.

“To challenge through the courts would not be

In May of this year, live animal exports started crossing the channel from Ramsgate. Animal protestors want the trade banned although legislation means the port has to accept the legal exports. Activists and councillors are now looking to a south coast neighbour and to the European Parliament to see how they can stop the live exports and succeed, as they did in Dover in the 1990s



A NEW GENERATION OF ANIMAL EXPORTS

“““

This is a cruel and archaic trade being enforced using Victorian legislation. The British people don’t want it and the people of Ramsgate don’t want it.

MICHÈLE DANAN, HEAD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT COMPASSION IN WORLD FARMING

a sound spend of taxpayers’ money and as a result the council agreed to the settlement with the ferry company forgoing the berthing fee in exchange for them dropping their compensation claim.”

Thanet council hopes to use a similar strategy of increasing berthing fees to pay for additional security and handling costs, to price the exporters out of the market.

Labour councillor Ian Driver, who has been a vocal protestor inside and outside of the council chamber, said: “This trade is only marginally profitable, so if we could put the squeeze on the trade it would stop very quickly because they would be losing money.”

Raising the berthing fees and the surcharges at the Port of Ramsgate would not only harm the ship’s operator, Barco de Vapor BV of Amsterdam, but it would also impact on the farmers who are selling the animals.

Farmers, however, say the trade is essential. A spokesman for the National Farmers’ Union said: “This trade is subject to comprehensive legislative controls designed to safeguard animal welfare.

“There is nothing inherently wrong or cruel either about moving calves from part of Europe to another, provided they are well-cared for both in transit and in rearing.

“This is a valuable and legitimate trade, particularly given the value of the pound against the Euro.

“If the UK public wants to retain a beauty and diversity of the English countryside, the livestock farmer has to make a profitable return on his livestock.

“Legitimate internal and external markets should be open to him.”

Livestock farmer and NFU member, Frank Langrish, supports the notion that anyone breaking the legislation should be punished, but says that the journey to the continent is actually better for the animals as they have less time and distance to travel.

He said: “Unfortunately, for those of us who produce animals, that’s our income, that’s how we make money.

“There is an abattoir one hour and twenty minutes from Calais, so, including the loading, it will only take about four-and-a-half to five hours total transport time.

“It is also EU approved, so it operates at the same standard as those in the UK. This is a legal trade. Things have moved on over the last 20 years and there is a belt and braces way of doing things now.”

EMOTIVE ISSUE:

The export of animals through the port of Ramsgate has sparked protest, while Thanet District Council, which runs the port, faces the threat of costly legal action if it were to ban them

HAVE YOUR SAY...

We would like to hear your views on this, or any other story.

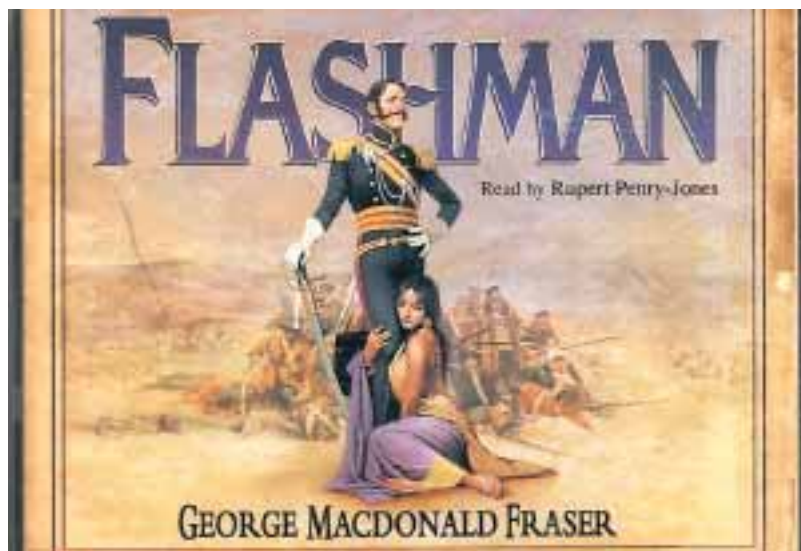
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KENT REMEMBERED



BOUNDER: Flashman is often pictured as a soldier with a woman clinging lovingly to his leg

When the cad took on Kent's cricket players

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

WITH all its great claims to true historical significance Canterbury has also been instrumental in the notorious career of fictional rake, womaniser, poltroon and arch-cad Sir Harry Paget Flashman.

One of the great literary creations of all time, Flashman first appeared in Thomas Hughes 1857 novel Tom Brown's Schooldays as the "fag-roasting rotter" bully of Rugby School, finally expelled for drunkenness.

But it took 20th century writer George MacDonald Fraser to fully develop the character as a VC winning soldier and imperial adventurer in a series of bestselling novels.

The first novel in the series – simply called Flashman – sees "a scoundrel, a liar, a cheat, a thief, a coward – and oh yes, a toady" setting off on his military career.

His choice of the elite 11th Regiment of the Light Dragoon, in which his father bought him a commission – was based purely on the fact the unit was unlikely to be sent abroad and into action as it had just completed long service in India.

In fact they were based at Canterbury where Flashman, strolling in the parks, makes the acquaintance of a French woman who is involved with another officer.

The ensuing duel goes somewhat towards making the false reputation for daring,



HOWZAT: Flashman plays cricket against Kent in one book

bravery and recklessness he holds throughout his career – as only he and his accomplice know his opponent's pistol is not loaded.

Part of the genius of the novels is that they claim to be the discovered memoirs of a man who history has lauded, telling the truth of his life in old age.

This proclamation at the start of the first book was so convincing it had 10 of 34 US reviewers celebrating the unearthing of valuable real-life historical documents.

Later novels tell of Flashman's adventures in the Indian Mutiny, leading the Charge of the Light Brigade, outwitting Sherlock Holmes, battling Na-

tive American warriors, foiling a Russian invasion and helping to start the American Civil War.

At Little Bighorn, he saves his skin by (apparently) shooting General George Custer.

In Afghanistan, he acquires a reputation for heroism when his unconscious body is discovered draped in the regimental colours he'd desperately attempted to give away to the enemy.

In Flash for Freedom, he is praised as a heroic anti-slavery campaigner – but only because the ship full of kidnapped Africans he is helping sail to America has just been boarded by the US Navy.

But "Flashy" also has further connections with Canterbury when he returns in Flashman's Lady.

A noted cricketer when playing against Kent at Lord's for a Rugby School XI in 1842 he takes a hat-trick of illustrious wickets – Felix, Pilch and Mynn – and is then invited to play in a festival in the city.

But he doesn't stay long in the Garden of England.

With bewildering speed a combination of adultery, gambling and a close single-wicket match with an old-Etonian Sarawak pirate lord leads to the kidnapping of his wife, battles on a Borneo river and finally a spell serving an African queen in an intimate capacity.

■ See www.yourcanterbury.co.uk for all the latest news and sport headlines.

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Cars 2 2D (U)
Cars 2 3D (U)
Horrible Bosses (15)
Kung Fu Panda 2 2D (PG)

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Transformers: Dark of the Moon 2D (12A)
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows 2D (12A)
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows 3D (12A)

ODEON KIDS
Yogi Bear 2D (U)

SENIOR SCREEN
Red Riding Hood (12A)

For times and films, please call the film line on 0871 22 44 007 or visit www.odeon.co.uk

The Other Cinema Club
'Win Win' (15) – Thursday 8th September 7.45pm

For all Dickens World information and online bookings, go to www.dickensworld.co.uk or call 01634 890421



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The Royal Wedding Souvenir Edition marks this special occasion, with exclusive access to events at the Abbey, a very royal photo album, what Sarah Burton said about the best-kept secret in the run-up to the wedding, plus a look at what's in store for the new Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Plus, we take a look at royal romances through the ages, the history of the wedding dress and how global royal weddings match up.



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FOOD & DRINK

Flavours of Kent

To be included on this page, please email
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Tearoom's success causes quite a stir in cathedral city

TEA IS one of the things that unites us as a nation – whether it is the finest Earl Grey served in bone china or a mug of Tetley. So when Jo Dench-Owens opened Tiny Tim's Tearoom in Canterbury she knew the cuppa had to be at the centre of the experience.

She said: "Tea is a real social part of being British. Everyone needs a cup of tea during the day. It is a respite from shopping, work and day-to-day life. People come with friends or just on their own to get away from it all."

Jo opened the tearooms in 2007 with her husband, but the size of the project soon outgrew her expectations when she found a shop in St Margaret's Street.

She said: "We wanted a nice small corner tearoom with room for about 20 covers, and then we found this building. It was far bigger than we had anticipated, but the history really interested us. It was built in the 1600s. When we took it over it was in a sad way after being a furniture shop, but we loved the potential. I don't think at the time we realised what a big place it was and what it would take to run it."

Jo's initial motivation for opening the tearoom came from her love of baking, which she inherited from her mother.

"She was a proper mum. She had always been a baker, making cakes and pastries and I used to help her in the kitchen. My grandmother's scones recipe is the one we use here, so really baking has been in the family for generations," said Jo.

The idea of Tiny Tim's was to recreate a tearoom that had a sense of style from the 1930s.

Jo said: "We thought that would be most appropriate and it gives the place a sense of style and class."

The art deco fixtures fit in well with exposed beams of a Tudor building which also has some supernatural residents.

Jo said: "The building is haunted by three children. I have never seen them, but our chef says he hears things all the time. We have a ghost room upstairs, which tells you the story

Ed Hill meets a woman who has used the British love of a cup of tea to build up a respected business...



ONE LUMP OR TWO?

Tiny Tim's Tearooms has become a popular place for the city's students and parents to celebrate when they graduate

about the ghosts and the restoration we did."

However, the main attraction for the tearoom has to be the food and drink, and most importantly the tea.

Jo said: "We have nearly 30 teas and a member of staff trained as our tea expert. She is very knowledgeable and passionate about it."

The teas are supplied from another local business, the Kent and Sussex Tea Trading Company.

Jo said: "We have two standards teas, English Breakfast and Pure Kenya that are easily drinkable and affordable, but more people go for

unusual teas than you think. Many enjoy Jasmin Snow Flower for example, that unfurls as it is put in hot water. It is one of the most delicious teas you can have.

"There are hundreds of teas. We try and bring them in on a monthly basis. If they prove really popular they make it onto the full menu."

Recently Tiny Tim's has been recognised by the British Tea Guild for its excellence.

Jo said: "It was an absolute honour. It is a bit like the Michelin Star for tearooms. It is a very high standard and includes places like The Ritz. Deciding to join the Guild meant we looked at everything we did and raised our standards.

"They are a very good organisation. They promote tea and really look at your tea service and how you present yourself to the customer. It's more than just a certificate on the wall."

Food is also an important element to the Tiny Tim experience.

Jo said: "We try to cater for people's needs without going too far away from what we are essentially. We have a full working kitchen so people can enjoy something at lunch.

"All the cakes and sponges are made here on a daily basis. We also make some savoury dishes such as sausage puffs made with local sausage meat and Kent Hufkins, a traditional roll that is delivered fresh to us each day."

The tearoom has also proved a popular place for students to bring proud parents on graduation day. "It is great to see the tearoom full of all these caps and gowns," said Jo.

Tiny Tim's looks like it is going from strength to strength.

Jo said: "I had no idea how busy it was going to be. We need 20 staff to run the place, but I think Canterbury needed somewhere like this that gives people an authentic British experience. We do get a lot of tourists, but many regulars have now become good friends."

Farmers' markets

Mersham

THE market now being held at the Farriers Arms, Mersham Forstal, between 2.30-6.30pm on every second and fourth Friday in the month features produce from the immediate area. Although a newcomer to the scene it is proving popular.

Penshurst

THE Times recently named Penshurst Farmers' Market in its Top 10 markets in the UK. With over 30 stalls offering the best local food and drink, and set against the wonderful backdrop of Penshurst Place on the first Saturday of each month the market is one of the most popular in the area.

Hildenborough

EVERY Tuesday in St John's Church Centre the popular Hildenborough Farmers' Market has an average of 20 stalls each week offering a wide range of fresh local produce of high quality at competitive prices.

Whitfield

WHITFIELD Farmers' Market is held every Thursday from 9am-noon in the Village Hall. It is a busy market with 200-300 customers through the door each week. Fresh fish on offer includes scallops, crabs, lobsters and local fish in season.

Rolvenden

ROLVENDEN Farmers' Market was established in 2000. It is run entirely by volunteers, is non-profit making and stall fees are kept to a minimum. The market takes place every Thursday from 10-noon in the New Village Hall and St Mary's Church.

Stanstead

STANSTED Farmers' Market, which is held in the village hall on the first Thursday of every month, is an alternative to opening a village shop. The market gives residents the opportunity to buy fresh local foodstuffs and gives local growers another outlet.

■ For more farmers' markets, visit
www.farmersmarkets.org.uk

Gem of country pub clicks all the right buttons for this diner

WITH all the hustle and bustle of daily life, it can sometimes be easy for city-dwellers such as myself to forget just how rural a place the Garden of England is.

Home to countless orchards, ancient woodland and green spaces, it's really not that difficult to locate a restaurant set in the heart of the Kent countryside which offers the types of views most urban folk can only dream of.

Being aware that Chartham, near Canterbury, is a popular place to live, I decided to type the words 'Chartham' and 'restaurants' into Google when trying to figure out where I should eat last Saturday night.

While not the most scientific approach I admit, the first result that came up – the Chapter Arms in nearby Chartham Hatch – proved my theory

RESTAURANT Review



DELIGHT: Chapter Arms near Canterbury

that you don't have to spend too long looking for idyllic eateries in Kent.

With the restaurant overlooking acres of apple orchards and with a classic red telephone box stood at its

entrance, my guest and I were instantly won over by the charm of the place.

Thankfully the food lived up to expectations too, as you would expect from a restaurant whose owner has catered for cricket test matches at Lord's, tennis at Wimbledon, and rugby at Twickenham.

For my starter I opted for a delicious dish of chicken liver, smoked bacon and brandy pâté served with home-made chutney (£5.50), and I'm happy to say the Chapter Arms is probably the only restaurant I've ever visited that provides you with enough toast to spread the stuff on. Bravo!

My guest was equally pleased with her carpaccio of Aberdeen Angus fillet with mixed leaf salad (£6), which set her up nicely for a main course of Romney Marsh lamb rump served with spring onion mash, Kentish

asparagus and a mint veloute (£15).

For my main, I decided to order the Kentish pork tenderloin served with a cider fondant potato, carrots, green beans and a pork and apple jus (£14). While the potato was slightly crumbly, it did not take away from what was a tasty, filling meal.

We both rounded our meal off with a beautiful treacle pudding (£5.50) – which you can't really go wrong with.

Overall, the Chapter Arms is a fantastic pub with excellent local food, and I shall most definitely be making a return visit.

I'd encourage you to do the same.

Steve Knight

■ The Chapter Arms
New Town Street,
Chartham Hatch, near Canterbury
Telephone: 01227 738340

WALK/CYCLE

Isle of Sheppey

Visit www.kent.gov.uk/explorekent

ENJOY an afternoon away from it all. With the breeze in your hair and the wind at your heels you can now enjoy a day of cycling along mainly traffic-free routes on the Isle of Sheppey.

The Isle of Harty Trail 5.9 miles (9.5km) and the Sheerness Way 5.6 miles (9km) are both flat and suitable for families.

They are mainly traffic free, but with some sections on road. At a moderate speed they can be completed comfortably in under an hour, depending on your fitness, but with young children it will take longer. Build in stops to enjoy the local attractions and you could easily spend the whole day exploring either trail.

The Isle of Harty Trail is mostly off-road, the path is largely tarmac or concrete with sections of rolled gravel. When off-road do expect potholes and small cracks; routes do go through working farms and so occasional farm traffic should be expected. Do take care on the road.

Parking can be found at the Coastal Park and there are a further two car parks along the sea wall.

Leysdown is a small, but lively seaside resort, with a fine sand and shell beach – perfect for families. Before you start your journey, treat yourself to a snack in one of the many cafés or have a go in the amusements.

The trail is signed from the Spinney in the centre of Leysdown, so you can start your exploration here.

At the beginning of the 20th century the American Wright Brothers, pioneers of early flight, made the Isle of Sheppey a focal point of British aviation. They commissioned the Short brothers, who had already set up a factory on land between Leysdown and Shellness, to build aeroplanes to fly at Eastchurch.

Nearby Muswell Manor was the headquarters for the early aviators and subsequently became the base for the Royal Aero Club of Great Britain. The first pilot's licence was issued here. Today the Grade II-listed building is a holiday centre.

Continue on to the Isle of Harty. As the name suggests Harty was once an island, separated from the Isle of Sheppey by Capel Fleet and up to a mile of water.

While enjoying views of the Swale Estuary and looking over to Whitstable, you cannot help but feel that you are the only one there.

Despite the sense of remoteness, Harty Church has been there for more than 900 years. Look carefully and you will see that this Church is situated on the channel of the East Swale. It has seen people pass its doors upon every tide. Go inside to admire the Flemish Kist (a 14th century wooden chest), carved with two jousting knights which, legend has it, was brought in on one of these tides.

Close by is the Ferry House Inn near to the Ferry Landing where, until 1947, a regular ferry crossed to the mainland. You can stop here for some light refreshment.

Further inland, the RSPB 'Raptor View Point' is worth a visit. A spur from the main cycle circuit, you can watch marsh harriers swooping over the reed beds from April to October.

This is a premier site for watching birds of prey – from the Merlin to the short-eared owl. In particular look out for the rough-legged buzzard in winter months, and the hobby in summer.

For unrivalled wildlife you can also visit the Swale National Nature Reserve, an internationally important site. Park your bikes and enter on foot. Keep your eye out for the range of rare plants, birds, butterflies and moths such as white sea kale on the beach, the clouded yellow butterfly, and bedstraw hawk moth.

Having you enjoyed your tour, why not check out the Sheerness Way, another exciting cycle ride on the Isle of Sheppey where you will discover the history of the Queenborough



At just under six miles each, the Isle of Harty Trail and the Sheerness Way offer cyclists and walkers a rare insight into the wonderful nature, beautiful landscapes and history found on the Isle of Sheppey



VIEWPOINT: Both of trails on the Isle of Sheppey are virtually traffic-free and offer outstanding views

Lines. Or why not spend some more time on the beach enjoying the sea air?

Take part in Explore Kent Bike Week and you could win a £200 cycle break in Kent THIS weekend, why not join a guided bike ride along some of Kent newest and best cycle routes? A series of different bike rides along mainly off-road routes are now available to

book on the Explore Kent website for free.

Everyone who books a ride will be entered into a free prize draw to win a short break in Whitstable with bike hire and a meal for two.

If a guided ride is not for you then don't forget you can find a full list of off-road cycle routes through Kent's glorious countryside and coast on the Explore Kent website. From five miles to 45 miles, there is something for everyone.



Explore Kent

EXPLORE Kent is your one-stop shop for Kent's best walks, bike rides, horse rides and parks. With inspirational videos, a free iPhone map application, ideas for days out and much more, you can explore and enjoy Kent's countryside and coast.

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KENT ATTRACTIONS

To be included on this page, please email
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Wild animals Beasts from the jungle

Howletts Wild Animal Park
Bekesbourne, nr Canterbury
July-August
www.aspinallfoundation.org

HOWLETTS Wild Animal Park has loads to keep all members of the family occupied this summer. Visitors can delight at the antics of the lively colobus monkeys and langurs in their open-top enclosures, marvel at the curious and agile lemurs in the 'Walking with Lemurs' experience and come face to face with lions and tigers in their glass-fronted enclosures. There will be daily talks and feeds around the park and the themed months will provide fun quizzes and activities. August will be 'Ape Month' focusing on these popular primates. Visitors can now return to the park as many times as they wish over a period of 12 months with a new passport scheme. It costs £19.95 for an adult and £15.95 for a child.

Picture: PAUL WEBB



Theatre skills Victorian stage for children

Dickens World
Chatham Maritime
August
01634 890421

DURING the summer school holidays children can learn to dance, act and sing at the themed Dickensian attraction in Chatham. Run by well-trained performing arts industry professionals, children will be given the chance to perform some of the best-loved West End songs including Oliver, and Consider Yourself. From acting, dancing and singing, the children will be reaching for the stars as highly experienced teachers lead them through a jam-packed week of workshops and rehearsals. As an added bonus they will get the chance to perform what they have learned live in the Dickens World courtyard. The full week of fun and tuition costs £90 per child during selected weeks in August. 7-13 year olds only.

British wildlife Up close with rare creatures

Wildwood, Canterbury/Herne Bay
01227 712 111
www.wildwoodtrust.org

WILDWOOD, Kent's best British Wildlife park is a great day out for all the family where you can come face to face with British wildlife. Join experts at weekends and school holidays for free close-

up animal talks and feeds when you can learn all about the animals or enjoy a meal in the spacious picnic area. Visitors can see wolves, foxes, deer, badgers, owls, wild horses, lynx, beavers, wild cats, bison, squirrels, wild boar and many more as they walk around the twisting trails in the natural surroundings of British ancient woodland in Blean. Finish the day by letting your kids go wild on the large adventure play park featuring Kent's tallest vertical drop slide, wild fort, twisting tube slide and tree-top towers. There is also a separate under-

fivess area where little ones can play alongside children of a similar age. Run by the Wildwood Trust, a conservation charity dedicated to protecting British wildlife, Wildwood is not just a wildlife park but is also a unique conservation project. It tells the changing story of British wildlife over the last 1,000 years. Many of the animals on show at the attraction are now extinct in the UK or under threat, so when you visit you are playing a part in helping some of the UK's most endangered animals. It's just part of a day out where visitors can see more than 300 animals.

Bug Safari Discover the Darwin home

Down House, Orpington
Thursday, August 4
01689 859119
english-heritage.org.uk/Darwin

THE Ugly Bug Safari is a the first of a series of time-travelling events running throughout August at the home of Charles Darwin. Youngsters can embark on adventures taking a look at insects around the grounds, exploring some of the world's wackiest inventions and discovering and setting sail to learn the ropes of Victorian seafaring. Charles Darwin lived with his family at Down House for 40 years, and it is where he wrote On the Origin of Species. The garden played an important role in the scientist's work and leisure time. In his outdoor laboratory he grew his own vegetables and fruit to study, and he walked a mile each day on the Sandwalk which he called his 'thinking path'. The house includes the study where Darwin wrote his famous works. It houses many of his scientific instruments, test-tubes and little boxes containing insects, and his well-worn walking stick. Upstairs an award-winning exhibition includes a full-sized replica of Darwin's cabin on HMS Beagle.



Cider festival Fruity tipples and family fun

Brogdale Fruit Collection Faversham
Sunday, August 7

TASTY Old Wife and Double Vision are just two of the many local ciders available for tasting at the Cider with Brogdale event being held at Brogdale Farm, Faversham on Sunday August 7. Apples harvested in last autumn are now ready for drinking having been fermented over the

winter. Meet the local cider makers and learn about their traditional skills in producing such unique flavours. Family entertainment will also be available, with music from local Whitstable band Crooked Style. Children can visit the animals, ride the miniature railway or use the new play area. Orchard tours will also be available to see next year's cider apples growing. The Market Place shops will be selling cider and cider related gifts – including at the on-site restaurant. So whether you are a regular cider drinker or just interested in the heritage behind one of Kent's traditional drinks, Cider with Brogdale will make an enjoyable day out.



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Telephone: 01580 765155, visit kesr.org.uk or our facebook page for details of this and other events.

SCHOOL'S OUT

Maze, food, alpacas and lots of fun at Haguelands

By Nick Ames

nick.ames@archant.co.uk

THERE are lots of exciting things on offer at Haguelands – Kent's best kept secret.

A fantastic farm shop, a fishmonger, gift shop, bistro, cookery school, maize maze, fun yard, farm tractor rides, herd of interactive alpacas, and giant bunnies, to name but a few. And the maze is open seven days a week and offers hours of fun.

Haguelands farm shop offers numerous quality local products and many home grown things too, ranging from tasty jams and chutneys, Kent cheeses, local juices and waters through to the finest alpaca garments made from its very own herd fibre.

Also on offer this summer is paint-balling with a walk-on price of £5 for 100 balls and all necessary equipment.

The bistro and cookery school is a must, with its open-planned design, you can watch everything being created from fresh local ingredients right in front of your eyes.

If you do not enjoy your meal they will give you your money back, it's that good.

Once you have sampled the best of what Kent has to offer, why not book yourself up on one of the many cookery classes to learn just how easy it can be to cook with fresh local products?

Millie Marsh gift shop and Romney Marsh Fish Market complement the site with great local affordable products with a difference. If you can't find that unique gift or the best local fish around try Haguelands and you won't be disappointed.

New to this year is the park and ride service, where you can park your car at Haguelands and enjoy a free tractor ride to Dymchurch beach, which is a mile up the road. This service runs seven days a week, 9am-6pm and is a great way of having a cheap fun-filled day out with a difference.

Lastly, check out the website for some great



WHERE ARE YOU? There's lots of fun to be had at Haguelands, just ensure you make it out of the maze so you can enjoy the other attractions

fun evenings with a difference, such as the Drive-in Cinema nights, where you stay in your car to watch a movie on a 30ft outdoor screen. Waitresses will serve your car on roller skates, too.

There will be horror films screened on Halloween, again, on the outdoor 30ft screen, but this time with zombies serving your car. If you've never tried opera, why not come along to the outdoor opera in September, you can bring a picnic or order one from our bistro to complement your evening.

There's loads of Fun on the Farm to be had at Haguelands and they can't wait to see you!



GREENERY: The park offers history and beauty

Gardens offer the past and pleasant

FAMILIES visiting Goodnestone are always surprised to discover such a haven of beautiful tranquillity hidden away in south-east Kent. The gardens have many centuries of history behind them and have been created by generations of the FitzWalter family who have lived there since they built the house hundreds of years ago.

This summer, children have the chance to explore the 14 acres of gardens and woodland and enjoy a picnic or light lunch in the grounds' tea-room. Situated on the outskirts of Canterbury, the gardens have been maintained during the last 40 years by Lady Margaret FitzWalter and are filled with different specimens and displays of flowers and greenery throughout the year.

The grounds also play host to a number of events through the year. Between August 9-29 the Kent Costume Trust Exhibition heads to Goodnestone House offering queenly party dresses of the 20th century. On Saturday, August 20, the Garden Opera will host the outdoor production of Mozart's *The Impresario*.

Tickets for this event can be bought from the Marlowe Theatre on 01227 787787. And just before the children head back to school, *The Magic Flute* by musical director David Flood heads to the grounds. The show will play on Saturday, September 3, and Sunday, September 4 at 7pm and 5pm respectively. Tickets cost £25 and are available from Canterbury Gift Office in Burgate or by phone on 01227 464764.

For more information visit www.goodnestoneparkgardens.co.uk or phone 01304 840107. Opening times are 11am-5pm on Tuesday- Friday and from noon-5pm on Sundays.



YOUNG CAST: Actors from Kids On Stage present the Disney classic *Beauty and the Beast* at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone

Beauty and the Beast for the kids, by the Kidz

DISNEY'S *Beauty and the Beast* is a classic show and this production presented by Kidz On Stage at the Leas Cliff Hall will leave you gasping with excitement.

With an all-singing, all-dancing cast, Oscar-nominated songs, grand sets and special effects, the show is sure to provide something for every theatre-goer.

It takes place over two weeks from Monday, August 15 to Saturday, August 27.

There will be a spectacular transformation of the Beast into a Prince in this top drawer entertainment.

Beauty and the Beast includes wonderful songs like *Be Our Guest*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *No Matter What*, and many more.

The original costumes will be hired from London, to fit such characters as heroine Belle, egomaniacal hunter

Gaston, dim-witted hanger-on Lefou, and Maurice the eccentric inventor.

And in one memorable major scene the cast are transformed from humans – and it needs the love of the heroine to change them back.

Monsieur Lumiere is changed to a candelabra but still fancies himself as a ladies man.

Babette is transformed into a featherduster, while Mrs Potts is the kind-hearted teapot and her son Chip is the teacup.

But the star of the production is the Beast, who becomes the handsome Prince in the end.

Tickets for *Beauty and the Beast* cost £11 for adults or £10 for a child. Family tickets cost £38 and admit two adults and two children.

Contact the Leas Cliff Hall box office on 01303 228600.



HOMES



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HOMES

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Landlords must warm to government's Green Deal

Rental homes with poor Energy Performance Certificates will be banned from the market says **Tara Greaves**, sustainability correspondent for Archant, who uses personal experience to outline the current situation

OVER the years I have rented various properties and was often frustrated at the lack of power I had to make sure they were energy efficient – saving me much-needed money as well as helping the planet by being greener.

There was the one home with the windows so drafty the curtains had to be tacked to the sill to stop them billowing, and the other where lack of proper insulation meant sitting in a sleeping bag in the winter, even with the heating on full blast.

Now it seems that energy and climate change secretary Chris Huhne has taken matters into his own hands by introducing regulations that all landlords have to comply with to ensure minimum energy efficiency standards.

The measures, announced as part of the Government's Green Deal – aimed at

making this country's ageing housing stock more energy efficient – will mean at least 682,000 properties will need to be improved between next year and 2018.

And while the proposals have not been met with overwhelming support, they should be good news for tenants – many of whom will face lower fuel bills as a result of improvements.

During the second reading of the Energy Bill this week it was announced that from April, 2016, landlords will not be able to refuse reasonable requests from tenants or local authorities, acting on behalf of tenants, to improve their property.

From April, 2018, the Government will also make it unlawful to rent out a house or business premise which has less than an 'E' energy efficiency rating – although I would have liked to have seen this even greater.

From next year, under the Green Deal,

people will be able to access finance to pay for the upfront cost of work which will be paid back through savings on lower fuel bills, so it should not mean increasing the rent for that reason.

The bills are linked to the home rather than the person and could aid a quarter of a million of the worst insulated rented homes, which are classed as fuel poor.

Mr Huhne said: "Our proposals provide a voice for tenants living in poorly insulated, draughty homes."

The Green Deal is a win-win opportunity for landlords by removing the upfront cost of work to upgrade the property making it cheaper to run, more environmentally-friendly and ultimately more attractive to rent.

"For those landlords who don't take up the Green Deal then we will get tough so that by 2018, the poorest performing rented housing stock is brought up to a decent standard," said Mr Huhne.

Redevelopment scheme all for good of the public

A NEW social enterprise has been launched in the South East called BLAC Regeneration Limited which aims to redevelop under-used and derelict brownfield sites into high-quality, well designed and sustainable homes.

BLAC works for a social purpose and for the public good in disadvantaged and under-privileged communities, by redeveloping public sector properties to provide affordable housing and starter homes for people taking their first step onto the housing ladder.

As a social enterprise, BLAC says it embodies the Government's vision for the Big Society. BLAC is an alternative to the private sector companies traditionally responsible for regeneration projects.

In the wake of the recession, public finance for regeneration projects is scarce. Coupled with funding constraints in the banking system, a stagnant housing market and the fragility of small business, economic recovery in Britain relies heavily on the concept of the Big Society working. BLAC represents the



MAIN MAN: Richard Barwick

privatisation of the Brownfield Land Assembly Company Ltd, following the wind-down of the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA).

Richard Barwick, managing director of BLAC, said: "Shared value is right at the heart of our business. It involves the notion that the company and the community are inter-dependent. It means creating economic value in a way that also creates value for society by addressing its needs and challenges."

"BLAC believes in a wider definition of success: our own company success is connected to community success."



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STUNNING VIEWS BY THE SEA



36 Lanthorne Road Price: £795,000

BRAND NEW & LUXURY BESPOKE Detached house affording well appointed accommodation and stunning sea and North Foreland Golf Course views. Comprising five bedrooms with en suite facilities to all with additional 20ft x 20ft lounge, 29ft kitchen /dining room and rear balcony this superbly equipped and fitted property is finished to the highest of standards and boasts an NHBC certificate. There is a double garage and to the rear garden a brick summer house lending itself to a variety of uses. A schedule of fitments is supplied by the vendor and the property benefits from NO ONWARDS CHAIN. Viewing is essential to appreciate the quality



36a Lanthorne Road Price: £775,000

BRAND NEW & LUXURY BESPOKE Detached house affording well appointed accommodation and stunning sea and North Foreland Golf Course views. Comprising five bedrooms with en suite facilities to all and additional 20ft x 20ft lounge, 29ft kitchen/dining room and rear balcony this superbly equipped property is finished to the highest of standards and boasts an NHBC certificate. There is a double garage and to the rear garden a brick summer house lending itself to a variety of uses. A schedule of fitments is supplied by the vendor and the property benefits from NO ONWARDS CHAIN



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Thinking of building your dream home?

To most people the idea of building a house is a dream only available to those in the trade or people with endless pockets that appear on Grand Designs. However, with the right guidance, it could be easier than you think. Amazingly around 25% of detached houses built in the UK each year are self builders. That's an estimated 20,000-25,000 people; 90 to 95 per cent of which have never built anything before.

So why build your own home?

Most people choose to build their perfect house rather than settle for a property that doesn't meet their aspirations. Quite often people buy second hand properties that leave them with an endless list of home improvements and alterations, when it could be easier and more cost effective in the long run to build your own house to your specific preference. There is also a major tax benefit too; with all the materials and labour you use in building your own home free of VAT (Valued Added Tax).

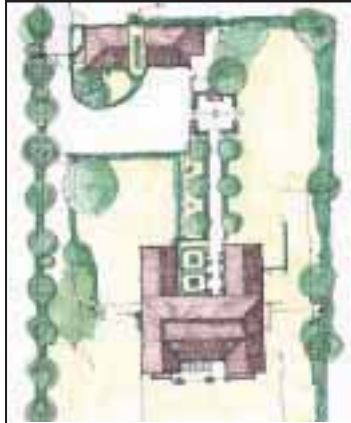
Considering the possibility?

Firstly, if you are thinking of taking on the challenge make sure you play to your strengths and ensure you don't take on more than you can handle. Project managing such a task is a full time job that requires organisation, the ability to work to a strict budget, to negotiate with tradesmen, a good attention to detail and most importantly for those not involved in the industry, an inquisitive mind that makes the most of the advice and expertise of the professionals you employ. Remember if you don't understand anything, just ask.

However, if this all seems daunting or unrealistic, then you can hire professionals to take charge of part or the whole scheme such as your architect, a chartered surveyor or a contract builder. Unfortunately, employing someone to take these responsibilities comes at a cost but this will be a much lower cost than taking on the build yourself and failing!

Finding a plot

Obviously one of the first issues is finding a suitable plot. The most important thing to do is make sure you keep an eye on what is coming to the market and register with any agents that sell development plots.



Illustrative Site Layout of Land at Bridge

RPC Land and New Homes specialise in this area and provide an online service that allows you to register and review any land opportunities that come to the market. Additionally if you specify your individual preferences, any new sites that come to the market can be automatically emailed to you.

Types of planning

Plots come in three main forms;

1. With outline planning permission
2. With detailed planning permission
3. Without planning permission

Outline and detailed planning permission both give you the right to build a property within certain parameters, but detailed permission usually stipulates specific materials and landscaping. Plots without planning permission are by far the cheapest but are almost always not worth the gamble, as if consent could be achieved, most land owners would have done so and sold them at a much higher value.

Arranging your finance

A good tip for self builders is that ready cash always gives you an edge over others. To maximise your buying power, try to sell your existing home or arrange your finance before you start searching. If the cash is in an easily accessible account and you are not connected to a chain, then when your ideal plot comes to the market you will be in a prime position to be able to purchase the site.

Unfortunately, finance for self build, as with all mortgages is not as easy to arrange as it once was.

One bank that is happy to provide self-build mortgages is Handelsbanken. "We have helped a number of our customers build their dream homes" says Jeremy Brett, Branch Manager of their local Maidstone office. "The key is for borrowers to seek professional advice at an early stage and to be realistic about what they need to contribute themselves, which is often the actual building plot itself, so we can then provide a mortgage to fund the construction, drawn in stages as the build progresses. Rates and fees are all by individual negotiation and finance can include flexibility during the build stage."

Use your imagination

Finally, when searching for a plot try and keep an open mind and remember that no plot is perfect but with some imagination most problems can be overcome.

Would like a New Home without the stress?

You may also want to consider registering with the RPC New Homes Team as they will be able to provide information about forthcoming developments that may allow you to put your finishing touches to a new home without any of the stress of building it yourself.

For more information on Land or New Homes in Kent please visit www.rpcland.co.uk or www.rpcnewhomes.co.uk

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Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Commercial unit measuring approximately 2,500 sq ft with residential development potential, subject to planning.



West Malling, Kent

Guide Price £400,000

Single building plot approaching 0.5 acres with planning permission for a detached house of approximately 2,700 sq ft arranged over three floors



West Wickham, Kent

Offers Invited

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Brenchley, Kent

Guide Price £595,000

1 acre plot with planning for a detached house and stunning views over open countryside



Lamberhurst Quarter, Kent

Offers Invited

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Offers Invited

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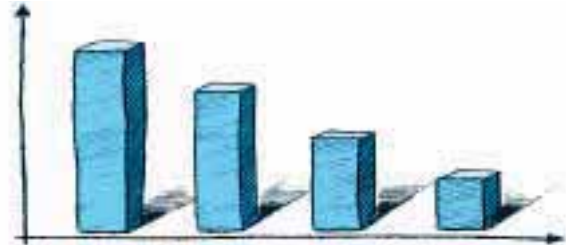
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Chinese takeaway for legendary Caterham Seven

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Legacy grows stronger

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

UNTIL the recession, many a success story was told by buying a big country spread and attendant Range Rover.

Such nouveau riche must have wondered though why 'old money' neighbours chose not to thunder down country lanes in a gargantuan gin palace or even a SWAT team Land Rover Discovery, preferring something more modest and low profile instead.

Like a Subaru estate.

Now you might say Subaru is as much a new-comer as Land Rover's latter day Tonka Toys, but the Japanese 4x4 specialist wooed the rural establishment with its little all-wheel drive pick up of the 1980s, often known as the BRAT.

Cheap to buy, seemingly bulletproof and light enough to go most places that the original Land Rover could go down on the farm, it was natural that Subaru should then sell its estates as Sunday best motors for the farming set, too.

There was the contradiction that saw Subaru also selling rally-bred Imprezas to a younger set, from which the brand has now distanced itself – the pivotal moment was probably when Burberry baseball caps became this group's favourite fashion item.

While grappling with this marketing headache though, Subaru was also buttering up its old money clientele by producing its first diesel engine.

No mean feat; perhaps the most idiosyncratic of all Japanese marques, Subaru not only adheres to 4x4 but also boxer engines – so named because horizontal opposition of the pistons makes them look like boxers throwing punches.

Subaru is in illustrious company here as Porsche also prefers this format, which cuts weight, allows easier cooling and, crucially, seats the engine lower for better balance.

But no-one had ever built a boxer diesel

SUBARU LEGACY TOURER 2.0D SE PRICE £20,070

FACT FILE



Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
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■ Walldonway Larkfield	0844 662 6857
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WELL BALANCED: The Subaru Legacy Tourer is stylish, durable and offers a pleasing mixture of comfort and driver entertainment

before and Subaru didn't need to either, since it was only us Brits and the Europeans who wanted one.

Still, we should be glad it did because the diesel models are transforming the brand's appeal to core supporters and winning new ones.

It does, of course, pull from lower down the rev range than its petrol equivalent – a boon when the car performs light off-roading – and delivers lively performance with a smoothness more like a throaty petrol unit.

But it is an average mpg in the mid-40s that makes it a winner and nowhere is this more obvious than in the Legacy series, available as a Tourer (estate) or as the pumped-up 'off-roadable' Outback estate.

We tested the former. It's not flashy, but stylish and well made, with an interior far more upmarket than Subarus of the past; the durability of a Subaru cabin could rarely be questioned, but the style and the quality of the fixtures and fittings could be agricultural.

The total package could still be deemed agricultural in a different way, because farmers love a bargain and there are plenty of standard goodies even on the entry level S (from £24,865 in diesel format) including power sunroof, decent alloys, cruise control and electric everything.

Two grand or so more for our upmarket SE test car also includes leather seats and smart aluminium pedals and more.

The car has loads of stowage, rear legroom is excellent, and the boot generous, with remote releases for the rear seats – just in case you need more space while cramming the back.

On the road, the Legacy is a pleasing mixture of comfort and driver entertainment: all-wheel drive means the car is sure-footed, but a slight lean on the corners is testament to softer spinning and straight line ride comfort.

For those who prefer a lower profile rather than an SUV or MPV, plus 4x4, this is the perfect load lugger. It's also a rather cheaper alternative to an Audi Quattro estate.

First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



Skodas flood Which? top 10

SKODA came first with 88.4 per cent in the 2011 ownership survey by consumer publication Which? Car. Four Skoda models were ranked in the top 10: the award-winning Yeti (4th) SUV; the flagship Superb Estate (6th); and two generations of the Superb Hatch (9th and 10th). All approval scores were higher than 94 per cent, an exceptional performance.



New engines boost Panda

FIAT has reinforced the Panda's environmental credentials with new Euro 5 emissions legislation compliant engines. They offer higher top speed, improved fuel consumption and lower CO2 emissions. The most notable is a 69bhp 1.2-litre Euro 5 petrol engine (0-62mph in 13.4 seconds, combined cycle 57.6mpg and CO2 113g/km) replacing the 1.1-litre entry unit.



Chinese deal for Caterham

CATERHAM'S legendary Seven sports car, which is now being built in Dartford, will be sold in China for the first time after an exclusive deal signed with a new importer. It means six retailers in key provinces of China will be set up over the next year with sales of 30-50 Sevens during that year. The Seven is already a huge hit in Japan.





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LEXUS CANTERBURY Broad Oak Road, Canterbury CT2 7PX
01227 455553 www.lexus.co.uk/canterbury


LEXUS TUNBRIDGE WELLS Dowding Way, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN2 3UY
01892 700400 www.lexus.co.uk/tunbridgewells


CT 200h prices start from £23,485 OTR. Model shown CT 200h SE-L costing £23,995 including optional metallic paint at £510. Price correct at time of going to press and includes VAT, delivery, number plates, full tank of fuel, one year's road fund license and £55 first registration fee. The individual with the best mpg over a pre-designated course will be deemed the winner. In the event of there being joint winners of any position then this will result in a prize drawer being conducted for the winners. This competition is not open to individuals or their families, employed by Toyota (GB) PLC, associated companies, their agencies or anyone else connected with the promotion. Entry implies acceptance of these conditions. The organisers decision is final. Terms and conditions apply. All Centre event test drives must be completed by 7 August 2011.

CT 200h fuel consumption figures: Urban 68.9 mpg (4.1 L/100km), extra urban 70.6 mpg (4.0 L/100km), combined 68.9 mpg (4.1 L/100km). CO2 emissions combined 94 g/km.

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The smart fortwo coupé is ideal for sporty motoring; it combines driving pleasure with sporty design, both inside and out. With incredibly low fuel consumption of just 85.6 mpg (3.3 / 100km) (combined)[1] (NEDC) and CO2 emissions of just 86g/km[1], the smart fortwo cdi earns the title of the world's most fuel efficient and lowest CO2 emitting combustion drive production car.

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Representative example smart fortwo coupé pulse 71 bhp mhd			
Monthly Payment*	£99.00	Optional purchase payment +	£3,720.00
On the road price	£9,200	Amount of credit	£6,623.45
Customer deposit	£1,895.00	Total amount payable	£10,095.55
Retailer Deposit Contribution	£681.55	Acceptance fee	£140.00
Total Deposit	£2,576.55	Purchase activation fee	£95.00
Number of payments	36	Fixed rate of interest	4.20%
5.9% APR Representative			

Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the smart fortwo range: urban 43.5(6.5)-85.6(3.3), extra urban 64.2(4.4)-85.6(3.3), combined 54.3(5.2)-85.6(3.3). CO2 emissions: 120-86 g/km.

Image model featured is a smart fortwo coupé pulse 71 bhp mhd at £9,200.00 on the road including optional green matt paint at £430.00 (on the road price includes VAT, delivery, 12 months' Road Fund Licence, number plates, first registration fee and fuel). *Based on an Agility agreement. Example based on 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charges may apply. †Repayable if you exercise the option to purchase the car. ††Includes optional purchase payment, purchase activation fee and retailer deposit contribution. Quotations available on request for alternative contract lengths and mileages. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. The finance campaign is available on smart fortwo models ordered/credit approved between 1 July and 30 September 2011 and registered by 30 September 2011, excluding smart fortwo nightorange edition. Offer is subject to availability and we reserve the right not to allow this subsidised rate to be used in conjunction with any other offer from the retailer. Terms and conditions apply. Credit provided subject to status by Mercedes-Benz Financial Services UK Limited, MK7 8ND. **Featured rates are not offer rates and are available all year round at your local Smart official workshop. Based on a smart fortwo cabrio manual. Standard service price only. Additional mandatory service items may be required dependent on the age and mileage of the vehicle. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer.

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AUTO EXPRESS February 2011



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Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.9 (10.9) - 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 33.2 (8.5) - 67.3 (4.2) CO₂ Emissions 225 - 99 g/km. Trms and conditions apply. Model shown for illustration purposes only. Offers correct at time of going to print.

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Official fuel consumption figures for the Suzuki Range: Extra Urban 74.3-38.2mpg (3.8-7.4/100km), Urban 51.4-25.0mpg (5.5-11.3/100km), Combined 64.2-32.1mpg (4.4-8.8/100km) CO₂ emissions 103-205g/km. Trms and conditions apply. Model shown for illustration purposes only. Offers correct at time of going to print.



AFFORDABILITY



HYUNDAI i30
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for nil advance payment

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CLASSIC 1.4
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Models featured: (1) Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi auto in Continental Silver metallic paint with nil advance payment. (2) Hyundai ix20 Active 1.6 auto in Ice Blue metallic paint with £199 advance payment. To qualify for the Motability offer you must be in receipt of the Higher Rate Mobility Component of the Disability Living Allowance or War Pensioners' Mobility Supplement. Offers are subject to acceptance of Motability application. The Motability Contract Hire Scheme is administered by Motability Operations Limited (Registered Company No. 1373876), City Gate House, 22 Southwark Bridge Road, London, SE1 9HB. Full written details, including terms and conditions, of the Motability Scheme are available on request from Motability. Please note 60,000 miles over 3 years are allowed on the Motability Contract Hire Scheme.
Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai ix20 range: Urban 34.0 (8.3) - 60.1 (4.7), Extra Urban 51.4 (5.5) - 67.3 (4.2), Combined 43.6 (6.5) - 65.7 (4.3), CO₂ Emissions 154 - 114 g/km. Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai i30 Comfort 1.6 CRDi auto: Urban 40.4 (7.0), Extra Urban 56.5 (5.0), Combined 49.6 (5.7), CO₂ Emissions 150 g/km.

RAY MORRIS

Automatic Cars Ltd

42 High Street
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Tel. 0208 303 4030

21 Watling Street
Bexleyheath
Kent
DA6 7QJ
Tel. 01322 524 680

NEARLY NEW 2011/10 60 59 REG CARS

2010(60)	NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC PLUS 2 4X4 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 200 miles.....	£22,495
2010(60)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIGHTSHADE, 4000 miles.....	£19,995
2010(60)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£19,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELITE CDTI TURBO MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles.....	£15,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles.....	£15,995
2010(60)	MINI COOPER MINI COOPER 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1700 miles.....	£14,995
2010(10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 900 miles.....	£14,995
2011(11)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 350 miles.....	£14,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£13,995
2011(11)	VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 500 miles.....	£12,995
2011(11)	PEUGEOT 308 HDI S 5DR TURBO HATCH, THORIUM GREY, 1000 miles.....	£12,995
2011(11)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles.....	£12,995
2011(11)	HONDA JAZZ I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles.....	£12,995
2011(11)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, RED, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2010(60)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, INFERNO RED, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2010(60)	NISSAN CUBE KAIZEN 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 3000 miles.....	£11,995
2010(60)	FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2011(60)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 3000 miles.....	£11,495
2011(11)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 2000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(60)	FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
2011(60)	VAUXHALL AGILA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 650 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10)	RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	PEUGEOT 207 S 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 350 miles.....	£9,995
2010(60)	HYUNDAI I20 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 400 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles.....	£9,495
2010(10)	KIA PICANTO STRIKE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS COUPES

2009(59)	BMW 3 SERIES 320I SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles.....	£19,995
2010(10)	PEUGEOT 207 CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles.....	£13,995
2009(59)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE COUPE AUTO, RUBY RED, 8000 miles.....	£11,995
2008(08)	PEUGEOT 307 SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, RED, 18000 miles.....	£10,995
2008(08)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA TEKNA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, EMOTION RED, 7000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA TEKNA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 14000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA VISIA CC MANUAL CONVERTIBLE, BLACK, 15000 miles.....	£7,995
2006(06)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,995

NEW FIESTA

2011(11)	FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, MIDNIGHT SKY GREY, 500 miles.....	£12,995
2010(60)	FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£11,995
2009(09)	FORD FIESTA ZETEC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£9,995
2009(58)	FORD FIESTA STYLE PLUS 3DR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 3000 miles.....	£8,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2010(10)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles.....	£10,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58)	FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles.....	£8,495
2009(58)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEA GREY, 16000 miles.....	£7,995
2005(54)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 29000 miles.....	£4,995
2004(54)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, MACHINE SILVER, 11000 miles.....	£4,495

FOCUS ESTATES

2008(08)	FORD FOCUS TITANIUM ESTATE ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS ZETEC ESTATE AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 5000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(08)	FORD FOCUS STYLE ESTATE AUTO, RED, 11000 miles.....	£7,995

RENAULT SCENIC

22009(59)	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles.....	£14,995
2008(08)	RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£7,495
2008(08)	RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles.....	£7,495
2007(07)	RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles.....	£6,995

RENAULT

2010(59)	RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION VVT MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles.....	£11,995
2009(59)	RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE COUPE AUTO, RUBY RED, 8000 miles.....	£11,995
2008(08)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(58)	RENAULT KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 300 miles.....	£7,995
2006(06)	RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08)	RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(58)	RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles.....	£7,495
2008(57)	RENAULT MODUS DYNAMIQUE S VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£6,495
2004(54)	RENAULT KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 28000 miles.....	£3,995
2001(Y)	RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION+ 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 30000 miles.....	£2,995

CHEVROLET

2009(09)	CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, POLY SILVER, 7000 miles.....	£6,995
2009(59)	CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ORANGE, 500 miles.....	£5,995
2009(59)	CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles.....	£5,995
2009(58)	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08)	CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, SPORTS BLUE, 18000 miles.....	£5,495
2008(08)	CHEVROLET KALOS SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, SPORTS BLUE, 10000 miles.....	£5,495
2008(08)	CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles.....	£4,995
2008(08)	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£4,995
2006(56)	CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles.....	£3,995
2007(07)	CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles.....	£3,995

HYUNDAI

2011(11)	HYUNDAI I20 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 100 miles.....	£10,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI COUPE SIII COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(58)	HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 10000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£6,495
2008(08)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, WINE RED, 13000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, WINE RED, 7000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLUE, 10000 miles.....	£5,995
2008(08)	HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles.....	£5,995
2007(07)	HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEASIDE BLUE, 19000 miles.....	£5,495
2008(57)	HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLUE, 27000 miles.....	£4,995
2006(56)	HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£4,295

KIA

2010(10)	KIA PICANTO STRIKE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08)	KIA RIO GS 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles.....	£6,495

DAIHATSU

2008(08)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	DAIHATSU MATERIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles.....	£6,995
2007(57)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(07)	DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles.....	£5,995
2007(07)	DAIHATSU SIRION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles.....	£5,995

BMW

2009(59)	BMW 3 SERIES 320I SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles.....	£19,995
2003(52)	BMW 3 SERIES 316TI SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 50000 miles.....	£4,995

FIAT

2010(10)	FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles.....	£9,495
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FUSION

2010(60)	FORD FUSION TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 3000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10)	FORD FUSION ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles.....	£7,995
2008(08)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, SEA GREY, 3000 miles.....	£7,995
2009(09)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles.....	£7,495
2009(09)	FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£6,995
2009(09)	FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	FORD FUSION ZETEC CLIMATE 5DR HATCH AUTO, OCEAN BLUE, 20000 miles.....	£5,995

CITROEN

2008(58)	CITROEN C3 EXCLUSIVE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles.....	£7,995
2006(06)	CITROEN XSARA PICASSO DESIRE 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles.....	£4,995

CORSA

2011(11)	VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 500 miles.....	£12,995
2010(60)	VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles.....	£9,995
2010(10)	VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING , 2000 miles.....	£8,995
2009(59)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING , 10000 miles.....	£8,995
2008(58)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles.....	£7,995
2009(09)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V TWINPORT 3DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 12000 miles.....	£7,495
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 9000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 7000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA SXI AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles.....	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, METRO BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£6,495
2007(07)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 39000 miles.....	£5,995
2006(06)	VAUXHALL CORSA LIFE ECO 12V TWINPORT MTA 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 27000 miles.....	£4,695

MAZDA

2008(08)	MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 18000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(58)	MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles.....	£9,995
2008(08)	MAZDA 3 3 TS2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(56)	MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles.....	£5,495

SUZUKI

2009(59)	SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles.....	£8,995
2007(57)	SUZUKI SX4 GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles.....	£7,495
2009(59)	SUZUKI ALTO SZ4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles.....	£6,995

TOYOTA

2006(56)	TOYOTA RAV-4 XT4 VVT-I ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 35000 miles.....	£12,995
2008(08)	TOYOTA AVENSIS T4 VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles.....	£11,995
2010(60)	TOYOTA YARIS TR VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles.....	£10,995
2010(10)	TOYOTA AYGO BLUE VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CARIBBEAN BLUE, 6000 miles.....	£7,995
2005(05)	TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CYRSTAL SILVER, 7000 miles.....	£6,995
2003(03)	TOYOTA YARIS CDX VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 46000 miles.....	£4,995

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2010(10)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 7000 miles	£16,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 12000 miles	£15,495
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FADED DENIM, 19000 miles	£14,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 10000 miles	£13,995
2010(60)	NISSAN CUBE KAIZEN 5DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 3000 miles	£11,995
2011(11)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, RED, 2000 miles	£11,995
2010(60)	NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, INFERNO RED, 2000 miles	£11,995
2011(60)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 3000 miles	£11,495
2010(59)	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC MPV AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 5000 miles	£9,995
2010(10)	NISSAN MICRA N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles	£9,995
2009(59)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	NISSAN MICRA TEKNA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, CAFE LATTE, 14000 miles	£8,995
2009(09)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles	£8,495
2009(58)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 7000 miles	£7,995
2007(57)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles	£6,995
2007(57)	NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 18000 miles	£6,995
2007(57)	NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles	£6,995
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2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 2000 miles	£8,995
2009(09)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 14000 miles	£8,995
2008(58)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles	£8,495
2007(57)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 20000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles	£6,495
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2010(10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE ESTATE AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 3000 miles	£9,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 7000 miles	£6,995
2008(58)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles	£6,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles	£6,495
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 18000 miles	£5,995
2006(56)	VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 19000 miles	£5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2010(10)	VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles	£9,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 miles	£8,995
2008(08)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 9000 miles	£8,995
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MITSUBISHI

2007(57)	MITSUBISHI LANCER ELEGANCE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles	£6,995
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HONDA

2008(57)	HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, WHISTLER SILVER, 12000 miles	£16,995
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2006(06)	HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 26000 miles	£10,995
2009(09)	HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles	£9,995
2008(58)	HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£9,495
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2008(58)	MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A170 AVANTGARDE SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles	£13,995
2007(57)	MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 23000 miles	£12,995
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2006(56)	MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180 KOMPRESSOR SPORT EDITION COUPE AUTO, BLACK, 48000 miles	£10,995
2007(57)	MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 AVANTGARDE SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles	£9,995
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2011(11)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles	£12,995
2010(59)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, REFLEX SILVER, 3000 miles	£11,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH TDI 105 DSG 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles	£11,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles	£11,995
2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE GRAPHITE, 18000 miles	£11,495
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2009(59)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, REFLEX SILVER, 780 miles	£9,995
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2009(09)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles	£8,995
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2008(08)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 10000 miles	£7,995
2007(57)	VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles	£6,995
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2009(59)	VAUXHALL ASTRA SXI 1.4 16V 3DR, GREY, 18000 miles	£8,495
2006(56)	VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V TWINPORT 3DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles	£5,495
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2006(06)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV, BLUE, 37000 miles	£4,995
2002(52)	VAUXHALL ASTRA LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 49000 miles	£2,495

SKODA

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2010(60)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles	£19,995
2010(59)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIGHTSHADE, 6000 miles	£17,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles	£15,995
2008(58)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 12000 miles	£15,495
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FADED DENIM, 19000 miles	£14,995
2009(09)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles	£14,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 10000 miles	£13,995
2008(08)	NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 13000 miles	£12,495
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MINI

2010(60)	MINI COOPER MINI COOPER 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 1700 miles	£14,995
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ATHLETICS

Tonbridge coach plays his part as club goes from strength to strength

Why Mark Hookway's labour of love is bringing out the best in west Kent athletes

By Steve Tervet

steve.tervet@archant.co.uk

FROM his earliest days as an aspiring middle-distance runner through to assuming a full-time coaching position, Mark Hookway has been at the heart of Tonbridge Athletic Club for more than three decades.

Hookway's passion for developing young athletes is evident from a glance at his Twitter page.

Competition updates from Gateshead, France, Watford, Solihull and Eltham in July alone illustrates his willingness to travel the country not only in support of the athletes in action, but those eager to follow their progress from afar.

The club where Dame Kelly Holmes trained as a youngster has always produced competitors of genuine quality, but Hookway, Tonbridge's distance running coach, is striving to create a sporting family, a support network – a club in its truest sense.

He explained: "Kelly's probably 10 years younger than I am so I would have been a senior athlete running when she was one of the young teenagers. Back then, there wasn't the same communication, the same awareness by the seniors of the younger athletes and vice versa.

"Now things have changed, with the internet and emails and there's more awareness of what everyone in the club is doing. There's a closer community, which is a really positive thing.

"Athletics can be quite a selfish life where you're doing it all for yourself. You need something to motivate you and if we can make it like a team effort, people will stick with it."

The ethos is spreading. Among a 13-strong group which travelled out to support Tonbridge's Robbie Farnham-Rose at the World Youth Championships earlier this month was Steve Fennell, who ran the 800 metres at the England Championships just six days later.

Hookway's dedication to the cause, as one of eight coaches working with the distance runners, is a serious labour of love.



Pictures: TONBRIDGE AC

THE GOOD OLD DAYS:

Mark Hookway (far left) in his running days, which have been taken over by a desire to coach talented athletes such as Robbie Farnham-Rose (centre, and left) in recent years

Since his company was sold in January, he has been able to channel his energies almost solely into the club, its website and most importantly, the development of the young runners in his care.

"I wouldn't be able to do this if I wasn't in the situation I'm in," he said. "I've been able to sit back from everything and concentrate on this. I pretty much treat it like a job now.

"I don't get tired of it because I feel we're moving forward, the athletes are motivated and they're doing well. The trouble with athletics is you can run your fastest-ever time, but you always know you can do better.

"If you win at the Olympics, the next thing's the world record. I want to get

a lot more through to the senior level, so I don't ever feel like the job's done. Driving up to some of these competitions, I see the queues of traffic going into Bluewater and I think 'I'd rather be doing what I'm doing' because it's very rewarding."

Hookway's own love affair with athletics began during his time at Judd School in the 1970s.

Upon joining Tonbridge AC, he ran the 800m, 1500m and steeplechase up to county standard as well as racing regularly on the roads. His club-mate, Mark Scrutton, held the British road record over 10 kilometres from 1984 until Mo Farah took the title from him 25 years later.

"The standard of distance running was so

much higher back then," Hookway recalls.

"There used to be a Tonbridge 10-mile road race which I ran just outside 52 minutes and came 18th. Today, that would win most road races because the jogging boom's taken off, there's mass participation and people are not willing to do the same amount of training."

A route into coaching opened up in 2003 when Hookway started running a group for athletes with friend Pete Mason. In the eight years which have followed, serious competitors have emerged all across the age groups and the club's strength in depth was highlighted when a group of 160 athletes and coaches travelled to the national cross-country awards evening in February. In Hookway's words, though, the job is never complete and with the summer athletics season in full swing, there promises to be no let-up for the 50-year-old.

MOTORSPORT

Quaife-Hobbs Hungary for success after Nurburgring disappointment

ADRIAN Quaife-Hobbs is looking for improvements when the GP3 series heads to Hungary on Saturday after taking one step forward and one step back in a frustrating meeting in Germany last weekend.

The Tonbridge racer took a gamble in race one at the Nurburgring last Saturday, starting on slick tyres in damp conditions.

A good start saw him climb from sixth to fourth and in a position to put pressure on the top three.

Rain late in the race made conditions very slippery and the 20-year-old was passed on



MIXED: Adrian Quaife-Hobbs

the final lap, having to settle for fifth place.

The reverse grid in the second race on Sunday saw Quaife-Hobbs start from fourth position, but a poor start saw him lose two places. He was

still in sixth on lap five when a collision forced his Marussia Manor Racing car out of the race.

The mixed weekend left Quaife-Hobbs seventh in the championship, 12 points off the lead.

The series moves on this weekend to Hungary, where Quaife-Hobbs has been quick in the past.

He said: "We need to put this weekend behind us and focus on Hungary where we were second fastest in both days of the mid-season test and where we will look to come back fighting."

MOTORSPORT

Conway puts qualifying problems behind him to move up in standings



RACE ACE: Mike Conway

AN action packed round 11 of the IndyCar Series saw Mike Conway finish eighth and move up a place in the driver standings.

The Sevenoaks driver had it all to do at the start of the race at Edmonton after qualifying as low as 20th on the grid. He fought back well and an early pit stop looked an inspired decision when the rest of the field were forced to stop as a result of an accident, leaving the 27-year-old at the front of the race.

Conway was then pushed wide and forced to go onto the grass which lost him his

position and he was then served a drive-through penalty for an earlier incident in the race, dropping him to 19th. A number of passing moves towards the end of the race saw him finish eighth and move up to 15th in the standings.

"It's always tricky starting that far back down in the field, so we're quite pleased with an eight-placed finish considering the problems we had in qualifying," Conway said. "It's good to be coming away with another 24 points and now the focus is the next race."

The next round is at Mid-Ohio on August 7.

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Bromley	12	5	3	16	21	155
Hartley Country Club	12	5	3	16	15	149
Lord'swood	12	6	0	11	14	148
Bexley	12	5	2	18	19	143
Blackheath	12	5	0	9	17	135
Sevenoaks Vine	12	4	1	16	17	131
Bickley Park	12	4	1	12	25	121
Tunbridge Wells	12	4	1	19	17	116
Sibton Park	12	2	0	20	20	80
The Mote	12	1	0	16	21	70

DIVISION ONE

Beckenham	12	9	0	2	4	190
Canterbury	12	8	1	11	6	176
Sandwich Town	12	5	2	15	22	154
Whitstable	12	4	2	19	17	136
Folkestone	12	4	0	10	15	130
Tenterden	12	4	1	12	10	112
St Lawrence & H&land Ct	12	3	0	17	15	108
Broadstairs	12	3	0	19	17	95
Ashford Town	12	1	1	16	24	83
Gore Court	12	1	0	17	25	74

DIVISION TWO

Hythe	12	7	2	13	14	179
Orpington	12	6	1	10	6	165
Upchurch	12	7	1	12	8	154
Dartford	12	4	1	14	20	125
HSBC	12	4	1	16	19	120
Harvel	12	3	2	14	15	113
Catford and Cyphers	12	3	0	17	21	110
Holmesdale	12	2	1	25	24	100
Hayes	12	2	1	18	24	93
Gravesend	12	2	0	18	17	87

DIVISION THREE

Linden Park	12	8	1	9	7	183
Bromley Common	12	8	1	7	7	176
Addington Village	12	5	2	17	18	139
Catford Wanderers	12	4	0	11	17	121
Old Wilsonians	12	4	0	12	19	119
Old Colfeians	12	4	0	21	16	118
Old Elthamians	12	3	1	14	21	114
High Halstow	12	3	1	11	16	101
Minster (Sheppey)	12	3	1	12	13	87
Sidcup	12	2	0	13	22	75

DIVISION FIVE

Cowdrey	12	8	1	5	8	187
Nonington	12	8	0	3	3	170
Blackheath	12	6	0	6	7	149
Bromley Town	12	4	1	11	21	127
Bapchild	12	4	1	10	14	122
Chislehurst & West Kent	12	5	0	16	8	121
Bickley Park	12	3	1	12	15	97
Offham	12	2	1	9	20	87
Wickham Park	12	2	0	6	16	74
Walmer	12	2	0	8	24	72

FIXTURES

(All games start at 1.15pm unless otherwise stated)

PREMIER DIVISION (NOON START): Sevenoaks Vine v Sibton Park; Tunbridge Wells v Hartley Country Club

DIVISION ONE: Tenterden v Beckenham

DIVISION TWO: Orpington v Holmesdale

DIVISION THREE: Catford Wanderers v Linden Park

DIVISION FIVE: Bapchild v Cowdrey

CRICKET

Buoyant Holmesdale face confidence test

CONSISTENCY is the key for Holmesdale on Saturday as they look to build on a rare victory which took them out of the relegation places in Kent Cricket League Division Two last weekend. A tense one-wicket success against Catford & Cyphers was only their second win of the season and took them up to third bottom. They will have to play well to avoid dropping straight back into the drop zone, as they visit second-placed Orpington this weekend. Linden Park's march to promotion remains emphatically on course. The Division Three leaders hold a 44-point cushion over third place following a five-wicket victory against Old Wilsonians. They can edge nearer to Division Two on Saturday with a trip to Catford Wanderers. Division Five leaders Cowdrey look just as unstoppable, making it eight wins out of 12 with a 62-run win against Walmer last time out. Up next is a trip to Bapchild, who held on for a draw when the sides met earlier in the season.

CRICKET

Survival is the main goal for Tenterden

By Glenn Pearson

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TENTERDEN skipper Andy Crawford is confident his side will end the season strongly and preserve their place in Kent Cricket League Division One. The side that play at Morghew Park bounced straight back to Division One last season following relegation to Division Two in 2009 and are holding their own this summer. They sit sixth in the division, a relatively comfortable 29 points above the relegation zone, and Crawford is pleased with where his side are at this stage of the season. He said: "I would say that we have performed pretty well and achieved as much as realistically we could have done, so at the halfway stage of the season I'm pretty happy. "It's our first season back in the division and because of that our ultimate goal has to be survival." Typical of most sides promoted in the Kent Cricket League, Tenterden have on the whole picked up points against the sides near the bottom of the division and struggled against those nearer the top. Crawford's side face one of the toughest challenges of the season on Saturday when they entertain league leaders Beckenham. While admitting it will be tough to pick up a result against a side that have traditionally been a powerhouse in the Premier League, the Tenterden skipper is hopeful his side will be able to pick up some points to keep themselves out of danger. "Up at their place earlier in the season we gave ourselves a chance, but towards the end of their innings we let them get 30 or 40 too many and went on to lose," Crawford said. "We are missing a couple of players on Saturday, so won't have a full-strength side out, but we are at home and although it will be tough game we need to pick up some points." Tenterden go into the game on the back of a losing draw against Ashford Town last weekend. Having bowled their opponents out for 201, Tenterden's batters struggled against the Town



All pictures: NICK DUNGAN

TOUGH: Tenterden are battling to stay up

attack and could only muster 144 for 7 from their 50 overs, thanks to 56 from David Harman. While it came as a bit of a blow heading into tough games against Beckenham and second-placed Canterbury the following weekend, Crawford believes his side can drop their tag of being a 'yo-yo club' and consolidate in Division One. He said: "We managed to add a few new faces and I think they are still taking a bit of time to gel. We have possibly found our level now as we have a young team that is developing together. It's a tough one because there are a lot of teams close together so there are no obvious wins. It's been a very competitive division so far this year and you can certainly tell the standard has gone up in comparison to the division we were in last season."

TUNBRIDGE Wells go into Saturday's crunch home clash with title-chasing Hartley Country Club on the back of a morale-boosting 18-run victory against Sibton Park last weekend. It helped the Wells stay above the trap door in the Kent Cricket League Premier Division, but they will have their work cut out this weekend with Hartley, who boast Kent wicketkeeper/batsman Sam Billings, just six points behind leaders Bromley. On Saturday, skipper Evert Bekker's 6 for 38 bowled Tunbridge Wells to a narrow victory at the Nevill as the home side managed to defend their total of 228 for 7. Chris Williams held the innings together with 81 before Bekker helped reduce the visitors to 210 for 8. Sevenoaks Vine dropped 24 points behind Bromley following an agonising two-run defeat to Blackheath. Having restricted the home side to 217 for 9, with John Bowden taking 3 for 45, the Vine then capitulated to 96 for 5 in reply. However, a partnership of 93 between Oliver Howick and Tyler Griffin (33) helped steady the ship. Howick went on to hit 81 from 84 balls, but attempting to run a single to the fourth ball of the final over, he was run out and the Vine bowled out for 215. Sevenoaks have a chance to claw some points back against Sibton Park on Saturday.

CRICKET

Victory for Wells offers hope of staying up but Vine defeat dampens title hopes



CLOSE: Vine lost by two runs



Touring car legend Tim Harvey has teamed up with Archant KOS Media this season to bring you a weekly column as the class of 2011 do battle up and down the country. Harvey, who was brought up in Sevenoaks and schooled in Tonbridge, more recently raced in the Porsche Carrera Cup for Wrotham team Motorbase Performance. He shares his thoughts, as an ITV commentator, on the British Touring Car Championship, and discusses the series' big issues.

The calm before the BTCC storm

“IT'S just over a week until the long summer break comes to an end and the British Touring Car Championship season resumes at Snetterton. Most of the drivers will have done some form of racing in the last six weeks, even if they may not have been in their touring cars. Even if they haven't spent much time behind the wheel a break like this doesn't really cause drivers to lose their edge like you would in most sports. They are all used to a five-month break during the winter, so you will find within 10-15 laps of getting back into the car they are right back on it again. What you do lose is the momentum and confidence built up if you had good results going into the break. From that point of view it will be like starting with a blank sheet of paper again next weekend. I should think Jason Plato and the Chevrolet team will have appreciated the time to perhaps re-gather their strength and re-assess what they can do in the second half of the year. Plato and Chevrolet will firmly believe they are still in the championship battle purely because it's not in a champion's nature to throw in the towel. They will start again with a positive frame of mind and Jason will always believe he has a chance. The break probably came at a bad time for Honda; they would have wanted the season to carry on. The big dark horses, Motorbase and Mat Jackson, were on a good roll as well so will be looking to pick up where they left off. Although the break has given the teams a good chance to take stock, the actual development of the cars will probably be fairly minimal. Teams are only allowed to do very limited testing so most will have used the last few weeks to sort out the list of jobs they have accumulated in the first few races and not had time to sort out. Things like mechanical engineering, working on improving reliability and restocking parts. While they are unable to spend much time out on the track, the front runners will use racing simulators on a four poster rig. They can be very useful for setting up aspects like the suspension and certainly teams will have spent time using them. All the work will only result in tiny differences but you never know, somebody could have found something very good which might make a big difference.”

Sport

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TUNBRIDGE WELLS

**RETURN:** Ross Cable is back at Tunbridge Wells

Second time lucky as Larkin clinches signing of Cable

TUNBRIDGE Wells have boosted their squad ahead of the new Kent League season with the signing of experienced forward Ross Cable.

The striker looked odds on to sign for the Wells during pre-season last year, only to receive an offer late in the day to play elsewhere. However, Cable has returned this summer and signed Kent League forms over the weekend to become boss Martin Larkin's fifth signing in just over a week.

The Wells manager said: "He had some excellent offers to play elsewhere last year and that's what he did. He had the same type of offers this year, but has signed forms for us and I'm very happy because he is an exceptional player."

Cable, who is back for a second spell at Culverden having previously played under Mike Robbins during the 2008/2009 season, follows new recruits Andy Irvine, Nick Nowotny, Gary Clarke and Joe Risby to have joined the club this month. That, though, according to Larkin is the end of his transfer business as he now looks to release some players after seeing his squad bulge to 20 this summer.

Tunbridge Wells face Ryman Division One South side Mersham at Culverden on Saturday, fresh from lifting the George Piper Courier Cup last weekend. The Wells progressed to the final after beating a youthful Tonbridge Angels 3-2 on penalties last Saturday. Goalkeeper Michal Czanner saving three spot-kicks after Drew Crush and Alex Rich missed theirs.

A one-sided final the following day saw Larkin's side run out 4-0 winners thanks to goals from Scott Whibley, Irvine, Clarke and Jack Harris, much to the manager's delight.

He said: "We played very well. We had quite a few people away so we couldn't rotate as much as we would have liked. We didn't play that well on the Saturday and the players wanted to make up for that in the final and they certainly did that. We are pleased to come through unbeaten in pre-season and players have got minutes on the pitch."

**ON TARGET:** Andy Irvine scored in the final win

FOOTBALL

Fixture list a Christmas cracker for local rivals

By Steve Tervet

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THE return of the traditional Boxing Day derby between Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks Town has drawn mixed reactions from the west Kent rivals.

Not since Andy Garrett scored for the Wells in a 1-0 win at Sevenoaks in 2006 have the clubs clashed on December 26, adding an extra touch of festive spice to this season's Kent League meeting at Culverden. Wells manager Martin Larkin was delighted by the news, having guided his side to a 2-1 derby win over Town in front of a crowd of 162 when the sides met in the penultimate game of last season.

"Having the Boxing Day game is fantastic," he said. "Tonbridge Angels are away [at Bromley] that day so we should have a very large crowd. It makes sense because it can be a massive money-spinner. We were asked what we wanted before the fixtures came out and our committee are very forward-thinking."

It's a different view to the one shared by Sevenoaks, whose fixtures secretary, Sue Smart, is simply content to have been handed an away fixture on Boxing Day.

"You can't be cooking turkeys and putting the programme together," she said. "A lot of clubs like [Boxing Day] but for me, Christmas is a time to be with the family. From a personal point of view, I'd rather not have the Boxing Day fixture."

Meanwhile, the Wells celebrate their 125th anniversary on October 22 and have been granted their request of a home game to mark the occasion. Title favourites Herne Bay will provide the opposition, with the hosts hoping to welcome a large number of schoolchildren to share in their celebrations. Club secretary Phill Allcorn felt it



All pictures: NICK DUNGAN

DIFFERING VIEWS: The Boxing Day derby between Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks returns this year

was hard to predict what size crowd the Boxing Day derby would bring, five seasons since it was last contested.

"That should be interesting," he said. "We're hoping for a big crowd but it could go the other way; if people can't be bothered it could be quite

small. The fixture closest to Christmas has been postponed for the last couple of seasons so the weather could be a factor too."

The first meeting between the sides is a Bank Holiday Monday derby at Greatness Park on August 29.

RUSTHALL

Pressure of pre-season tournament provides useful dress rehearsal for Rusthall's squad

Preparations for the new season have advanced quickly at Rusthall after hosting the George Piper Courier Cup last weekend.

The two-day tournament featured the Rustics, Tonbridge Angels, Tunbridge Wells and Crowborough Athletic.

Rusthall's hopes of retaining the trophy were scuppered on Saturday as they lost 2-1 to Crowborough. After falling behind the hosts equalised through Alex Carey, who pinched the ball off the goalkeeper and rolled it into the empty net, but a late goal for the visitors won the game.

A measure of pride was restored in the third place play-off on Sunday, when a youthful Angels side was beaten on a penalty shoot-out after the game ended in a goalless draw.

**IMPACT:** Rusthall's Wayne Balmer

Although there was disappointment at missing out on silverware Rusthall boss Nick Coxon was pleased with the weekend's work.

He said: "Obviously we didn't do as well as we would have hoped by not getting to the final. We wanted to win but we have to remember the bigger picture, which is getting it right for the start of the season on August 20.

"It's a good tournament and attracts a few more people than you'd get for a normal pre-season friendly, so you get a bit more pressure. I think it does help to get the players more focused.

"Certainly on the Sunday I could really start to see how things are going to pan out and I'm in a much better position than I was last week in terms of

knowing which players will fill the positions. That's a testament to the tournament because it shows how young players are going to react in a fairly pressurised situation."

Carey was one of the players to emerge with credit from the weekend, along with Wayne Balmer, Andrew Lindsay and Stuart Morgan.

There is still almost a month before the inaugural Kent Invicta League kicks off and Coxon will use this Saturday's friendly against Wadhurst at Jockey Farm to monitor his squad.

The players are running out of time to force their way into the first-team line-up and after the following weekend's game with Bexhill the squad will be trimmed, with five or six players sent to the reserves.

TONBRIDGE ANGELS

Ex Horsham defender confident of making a difference at Tonbridge

By Steve Tervet

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DEFENDER Ben Andrews believes he has a bright future ahead of him at Longmead despite experiencing the harshest possible start to his Tonbridge Angels career.

Andrews, who joined the Angels on a one-year contract from Horsham last month, was handed a starting role when League One Brentford provided their first opposition of pre-season. The Bees were 4-0 up by the time Andrews was withdrawn at half-time, and they went on to chalk up a crushing 10-0 win over Tommy Warrilow's side.

"It was disappointing all round and no-one was more disappointed than the guys in the changing-room," Andrews said. "I thought Brentford were excellent but as good they were, we were as bad. It hurts when you ship one goal and it hurts a lot more when you ship 10. We needed to look at it as a team and as individuals and we were massively disappointed."

Shell-shocked by the manner of their defeat, Andrews and his new team-mates made amends five days later. Another home game, this time against a youthful Gillingham XI, resulted in a 5-2 win for Tonbridge. Andrews, who this time played for an hour alongside



DEFENSIVE DUO: New signing Ben Andrews (right) is beginning to strike a partnership with skipper Ben Judge (above)

centre-back partner Ben Judge, was relieved to have bounced back.

"It's going to take time to get used to a few new faces in the team but we played a lot better as a team and it was good fun, nice to win. It's good to get that out of the system and put in a better performance against Gillingham to give us some-



Pictures: DAVE COULDRIDGE

thing to work towards for the start of the season."

The step up to Conference South from a Horsham side which narrowly avoided relegation from the Ryman Premier Division appears large, but Andrews had no hesitation in accepting Warrilow's offer.

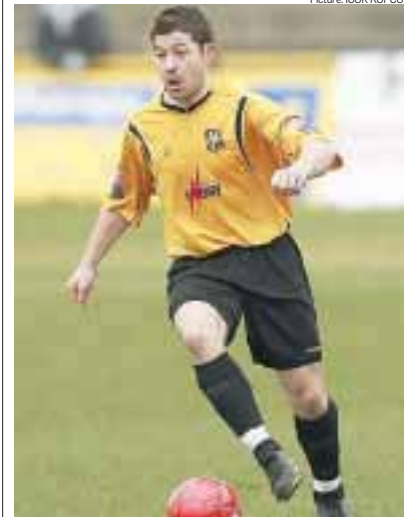
"I was thoroughly pleased when Tommy called me and

I'm massively happy to be here," he said. "It's a challenge, definitely, but I've got confidence in my own ability and I've played at this level before."

"I'm the fittest I've ever been. I've got no doubts that it's going to be a challenge, but I feel confident I can make a big difference to the team for this season."

TONBRIDGE ANGELS

Picture: IGOR KUPCO



FREE: Robbie Kember at Folkestone last season

Kember not part of Warrilow's squad plans - for the time being

THERE are no plans for Robbie Kember to join Tonbridge Angels but manager Tommy Warrilow has left the door open for a potential move in the future.

The experienced midfielder is without a club after leaving Carshalton Athletic at the end of last season and has been training with the Angels in pre-season to get fit.

Kember, whose career has also included spells at Bromley and Folkestone Invicta, scored in last Saturday's 6-0 win at Beckenham Town. For the moment there is no room in Warrilow's budget, but circumstances may shift.

He said: "You never know in football and if our situation changes we will try and sort something out with Rob. He's been totally professional and knows it's not been with a view to signing him, he gets married soon so he'll be away for a while anyway."

"When he comes back from his honeymoon we'll have a chat, but I'm surprised his phone hasn't rung with offers. It's always worth building links with players because the amount of boys who have wanted to come back shows we're doing something right."

"Rob's been great for our lads as well. We have got a young squad, people said Anthony Storey was over the hill when we brought him back but he's only 26. They're all waiting to hit their peak so if we can bring in some older heads I'm hoping it will help them develop."

Alwayne Jones bagged a brace against Becks, while Jon Main and Lee Browning were also on target two days after the Angels beat a young Gillingham side 5-2. A mixture of youth and reserve players turned out in the George Piper Courier Cup, finishing fourth after losing penalty shoot-outs to Tunbridge Wells and Rusthall after the games finished goalless.

This weekend there are two more games, with a trip to Kent League champions Hythe Town on Saturday followed by a visit to newly renamed Ashford United on Sunday.

Warrilow, who played for Hythe early in his career, is taking both seriously.

He said: "We'll treat them the same as we have the other games - go in as strong as we can but give everyone minutes. I want to get some consistency in our play."

SEVENOAKS TOWN

Thumping win gives Sevenoaks boss reasons to be cheerful

THERE were plenty of encouraging signs for Sevenoaks Town manager Darren Anslow on Saturday as his side produced their best display in pre-season so far with a comfortable win against Staplehurst Monarchs.

Goals from Tom Skelton and Kobi Botwe put the visitors 2-0 up after a first-half where Town striker Richmond Kissi missed a penalty.

While the Kent County League hosts rarely threatened to get back into the game, Town had to wait until 13 minutes from time to add to their tally, when Kissi made amends for his earlier penalty miss.

Richard Morgan wrapped up a 4-0 win late on to give the side their biggest win of the summer.

Anslow felt there were many areas which still needed improvement, but was generally pleased with the performance.

He said: "It was a good work-out for us really. I thought we kept the ball well, although we lacked a little bit of sharpness in the first-half, and needed to take a bit more care with the ball."

"We knocked it around in the second-half, just keeping possession, and trying to create."

"There is a lot more to come, but it was the first 90 minutes for five or six of the boys, and we tried to use everyone. We had four or five missing, but I was happy with it."

"Staplehurst made it difficult for us for the first 40 minutes, but I thought the third goal

was the best."

"We kept the ball, worked it into an area, created space, and Richmond scored."

"We could have nicked another at the end, but these games are exercises for us to get fit and work on things. We have got plenty to do from here."

Following a relatively gentle start to pre-season against lower ranked non-league clubs, it will get much tougher this Saturday when Town visit Ryman Division One North side Tilbury.

The game was hastily arranged after concerns over the Greatness Park pitch forced the scheduled home game against Kent Invicta League new boys Bearsted to be cancelled.



HAPPY: Sevenoaks Town boss Darren Anslow

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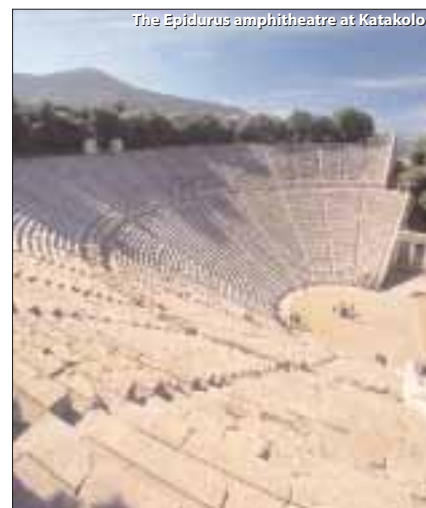
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